



**STATE OF TENNESSEE  
CENTRAL PROCUREMENT OFFICE**

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS  
FOR  
STATEWIDE LABORATORY SERVICES FOR VETERANS' HOMES**

**RFQ # 32399-00901**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

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The State of Tennessee, **Central Procurement Office**, hereinafter referred to as “the State,” issues this Request for Qualifications (“RFQ”) to define mandatory goods or services requirements; solicit responses; detail response requirements; and, outline the State’s process for evaluating responses.

Through this RFQ or any subsequent solicitation, the State seeks to buy the requested goods or services at the most favorable, competitive prices and to give ALL qualified respondents, including those that are owned by minorities, women, service-disabled veterans, persons with disabilities, and small business enterprises, the opportunity to do business with the state as contractors or subcontractors.

### 1.1. Statement of Procurement Purpose

The State intends to secure a contract for the provision of medical laboratory services at each Tennessee State Veterans Home operated by the Tennessee State Veterans’ Homes Board currently in existence, and at any future Home operated by the Board. Additional information concerning the TSVHB and its facilities is available at [www.tsvh.org](http://www.tsvh.org). Contractor should expect testing requests continuously for at least 5-6 days per week related to medical orders, constituting 50 - 200 draws depending upon need.

### 1.2. Notice of Intent to Respond

Before the Notice of Intent to Respond Deadline detailed in RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events, potential Respondents should submit to the Solicitation Coordinator a Notice of Intent to Respond in the form of a simple e-mail or other written communication. Such notice should include the following information: the business or individual’s name (as appropriate), a contact person’s name and title, the contact person’s mailing address, telephone number, facsimile, number, and e-mail address. Filing a Notice of Intent to Respond is not a prerequisite for submitting a response; however, it is necessary to ensure receipt of notices and communications relating to this RFQ.

### 1.3. Definitions and Abbreviations

TERM	DEFINITION
RFQ	Request for Qualifications

## 2. RFQ SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

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The following schedule represents the State's best estimates for this RFQ; however, the State reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to adjust the schedule at any time, or cancel and reissue a similar solicitation. Nothing in this RFQ is intended by the State to create any property rights or expectations of a property right in any Respondent.

EVENT		TIME (Central Time Zone)	DATE (all dates are State business days)
1.	RFQ Issued		January 23, 2023
2.	Disability Accommodation Request Deadline	2:00 p.m.	January 27, 2023
3.	Notice of Intent to Respond Deadline	2:00 p.m.	February 1, 2023
4.	Written "Questions & Comments" Deadline	2:00 p.m.	February 13, 2023
5.	State response to written "Questions & Comments"		February 27, 2023
6.	RFQ Technical Response Deadline	2:00 p.m.	March 10, 2023
7.	RFQ Negotiations		March 17-21, 2023
8.	State Notice of Intent to Award Released and RFQ Files Opened for Public Inspection		March 23, 2023
9.	End of Open File Period		March 30, 2023
10.	State sends contract to Contractor for signature		April 3, 2023
11.	Contractor Signature Deadline	2:00 p.m.	April 10, 2023

### 3. RESPONSE REQUIREMENTS

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3.1. **Response Contents:** A response to this RFQ should address the following:

- 3.1.1. **Mandatory Requirements:** This section details the mandatory technical, functional, and experience requirements that must be demonstrated in the response to this RFQ in order to be passed on to Phase II of the Technical Response evaluation. A Respondent should duplicate and use RFQ Attachment A as a guide to organize responses for the Mandatory Requirements of the RFQ response. The Respondent should reference the page location of the information within the response in the indicated column of the table. This section is included in the State's evaluation as to whether or not a Respondent meets mandatory qualifications (Phase I).
- 3.1.2. **General Qualifications & Experience:** This section is included in the State's evaluation of Phase II of the Technical Response Evaluation and details general information and qualifications that must be demonstrated in the response to this RFQ. A Respondent should duplicate and use RFQ Attachment B as a guide to organize responses for this portion of the RFQ response. The Respondent should reference the page location of the information within the response in the indicated column of the table.
- 3.1.3. **Technical Qualifications, Experience & Approach:** This section is also included in the State's evaluation of Phase II of the Technical Response Evaluation and details technical qualifications, experience, and approach items that must be demonstrated in the response to this RFQ. A Respondent should duplicate and use RFQ Attachment C as a guide to organize responses for this portion of the RFQ response. The Respondent should reference the page location of the information within the response in the indicated column of the table.

### 3.2. Response Delivery Location

A Respondent must ensure that the State receives a Response to this RFQ no later than the Response Deadline time and dates detailed in the RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events. All responses must be delivered to:

Van Bryant  
Sourcing Analyst, Central Procurement Office  
312 Rosa L Parks Ave, 3rd Floor  
Nashville, TN 37243

### 3.3. Response Format

- 3.3.1. A Respondent must ensure that the original response meets all form and content requirements detailed within this RFQ.
- 3.3.2. A Respondent must submit original response documents and copies as specified below.

#### 3.3.2.1. Technical Response

One (1) original Technical Response paper document clearly labeled:

**“RFQ ##32399-00901 TECHNICAL RESPONSE ORIGINAL”**

and five (5) copies of the Technical Response each in the form of one (1) digital document in “PDF” format properly recorded on its own otherwise blank, USB flash drive labeled:

**“RFQ #32399-00901 TECHNICAL RESPONSE COPY”**

The digital copies should not include copies of sealed customer references or cost information in the general and technical evaluation phase. However, any other discrepancy between the paper response document and digital copies may result in the State rejecting the response as nonresponsive.

**3.4. Response Prohibitions:** A response to this RFQ shall not:

- 3.4.1. Restrict the rights of the State or otherwise qualify the response to this RFQ;
- 3.4.2. Include, for consideration in this procurement process or subsequent contract negotiations, incorrect information that the Respondent knew or should have known was materially incorrect;
- 3.4.3. Include more than one response, per Respondent, to this RFQ;
- 3.4.4. Include any information concerning costs (in specific dollars or numbers) associated with the Technical Response;
- 3.4.5. Include the respondent's own contract terms and conditions (unless specifically requested by the RFQ); or
- 3.4.6. Include the respondent as a prime contractor while also permitting one or more other respondents to offer the respondent as a subcontractor in their own responses.

**3.5. Response Errors & Revisions**

A Respondent is responsible for any and all errors or omissions in its response to this RFQ. A Respondent will not be allowed to alter or revise its response after the Response Deadline time and dates as detailed in RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events, unless such is formally requested in writing by the State (e.g., through a request for clarification, etc.).

**3.6. Response Withdrawal**

A Respondent may withdraw a response at any time before the Response Deadline time and date as detailed in RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events, by submitting a written signed request by an authorized representative of the Respondent. After withdrawing a response, a Respondent may submit another Response at any time before the Response Deadline time and date as detailed in RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events.

**3.7. Response Preparation Costs**

The State will not pay any costs associated with the preparation, submittal, or presentation of any response. Each Respondent is solely responsible for the costs it incurs in responding to this RFQ.

## 4. GENERAL INFORMATION & REQUIREMENTS

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### 4.1. Communications

- 4.1.1. Respondents shall reference RFQ #32399-00901 in all communications relating to this solicitation, and direct any such communications to the following person designated as the Solicitation Coordinator:

Van Bryant  
 Sourcing Analyst, Central Procurement Office  
 312 Rosa L Parks Ave, 3rd Floor  
 Nashville, TN 37243  
 615-253-3678  
[Van.bryant@tn.gov](mailto:Van.bryant@tn.gov)

The State will convey all official responses and communications related to this RFQ to the potential respondents from whom the State has received a Notice of Intent to Respond (refer to RFQ Section 1.3.).

- 4.1.2. Potential respondents with a handicap or disability may receive accommodation relating to the communication of this RFQ and participating in the RFQ process. Potential respondents may contact the RFQ Coordinator to request such reasonable accommodation no later than the Disability Accommodation Request Deadline detailed in RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events.
- 4.1.3. **Unauthorized contact about this RFQ with other employees or officials of the State of Tennessee may result in disqualification from contract award consideration.**
- 4.1.4. Notwithstanding the foregoing, potential Respondents may also contact the following as appropriate:
- 4.1.4.1. Staff of the Governor's Office of Diversity Business Enterprise may be contacted for assistance with respect to available minority-owned, woman-owned, service-disabled veteran-owned, businesses owned by persons with disabilities and small business enterprises as well as general public information relating to this request; or
- 4.1.4.2. The following individual designated by the State to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements of the State of Tennessee, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and associated federal regulations:

Warren Jasper, Director of Risk Management  
 Tennessee State Veterans' Homes Board  
 345 Compton Road, Murfreesboro, TN 37130  
 Telephone Number (615) 225-1804  
[wjasper@tsvh.org](mailto:wjasper@tsvh.org)

### 4.2. Nondiscrimination

No person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the performance of a contract pursuant to this solicitation or in the employment practices of the Contractor on the grounds of handicap or disability, age, race, creed, color, religion (subject to Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 4-21-401 and 405), sex, national origin, or any

other classification protected by federal, Tennessee state constitutional, or statutory law. The Contractor pursuant to this solicitation shall post in conspicuous places, available to all employees and applicants, notices of nondiscrimination.

#### 4.3. **Conflict of Interest**

4.3.1. The State may not consider a proposal from an individual who is, or within the past six (6) months has been, a State employee. For these purposes,

4.3.1.1. An individual shall be deemed a State employee until such time as all compensation for salary, termination pay, and annual leave has been paid;

4.3.1.2. A contract with or a proposal from a company, corporation, or any other contracting entity in which a controlling interest is held by any State employee shall be considered to be a contract with or proposal from the employee; and

4.3.1.3. A contract with or a proposal from a company, corporation, or any other contracting entity that employs an individual who is, or within the past six months has been, a State employee shall not be considered a contract with or a proposal from the employee and shall not constitute a prohibited conflict of interest.

4.3.2. This RFQ is also subject to Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-4-101—105.

#### 4.4. **Respondent Required Review & Waiver of Objections**

4.4.1. Each potential respondent must carefully review this RFQ, including but not limited to, attachments, the RFQ Attachment G, *pro forma* Contract, and any amendments for questions, comments, defects, objections, or any other matter requiring clarification or correction (collectively called “questions and comments”).

4.4.2. Any potential respondent having questions and comments concerning this RFQ must provide such in writing to the State no later than the written “Questions & Comments Deadline” detailed in RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events.

4.4.3. Protests based on any objection shall be considered waived and invalid if the objection has not been brought to the attention of the State, in writing, by the written “Questions & Comments Deadline.”

#### 4.5. **Disclosure of Response Contents**

4.5.1. All materials submitted to the State in response to this solicitation become property of the State of Tennessee. Selection for award does not affect this right. By submitting a response, a Respondent acknowledges and accepts that the full contents and associated documents submitted in response to this request will become open to public inspection in accordance with the laws of the State of Tennessee. Refer to RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events.

4.5.2. The RFQ responses will be available for public inspection only after the completion of evaluation of the RFQ or any resulting solicitation which this RFQ becomes a part of, whichever is later.

#### 4.6. **Notice of Professional Licensure, Insurance, and Department of Revenue Registration Requirements**

4.6.1. All persons, agencies, firms or other entities that provide legal or financial opinions, which a Respondent provides for consideration and evaluation by the State as part of a response to this RFQ, shall be properly licensed to render such opinions.

4.6.2. Before the Contract resulting from this RFQ is signed, the apparent successful Respondent (and Respondent employees and subcontractors, as applicable) must hold all necessary, appropriate business and professional licenses to provide service as required. The State may require any Respondent to submit evidence of proper licensure.

- 4.6.3. Before the Contract resulting from this RFQ is signed, the apparent successful Respondent must provide a valid, Certificate of Insurance indicating current insurance coverage meeting minimum requirements as may be specified by the RFQ.
- 4.6.4. Before the Contract resulting from this RFQ is signed, the apparent successful Respondent must be registered with the Department of Revenue for the collection of Tennessee sales and use tax. The State shall not approve a contract unless the Respondent provides proof of such registration or provides documentation from the Department of Revenue that the Contractor is exempt from this registration requirement. The foregoing is a mandatory requirement of an award of a contract pursuant to this solicitation. To register, please visit the Department of Revenue's Tennessee Taxpayer Access Point (TNTAP) website for Online Registration and the Vendor Contract Questionnaire. These resources are available at the following:  
<https://tntap.tn.gov/eservices/#1>

#### 4.7. **RFQ Amendments & Cancellation**

- 4.7.1. The State reserves the right to amend this RFQ at any time, provided that it is amended in writing. However, prior to any such amendment, the State will consider whether it would negatively impact the ability of potential respondents to meet the deadlines and revise the RFQ Schedule of Events if deemed appropriate. If a RFQ amendment is issued, the State will convey it to potential respondents who submitted a Notice of Intent to Respond (refer to RFQ § 1.3). A response must address the final RFQ (including its attachments) as may be amended.
- 4.7.2. The State reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to cancel or to cancel and reissue this RFQ in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

#### 4.8. **State Right of Rejection**

- 4.8.1. Subject to applicable laws and regulations, the State reserves the right to reject, at its sole discretion, any and all proposals.
- 4.8.2. The State may deem as nonresponsive and reject any proposal that does not comply with all terms, conditions, and performance requirements of this RFQ. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the State reserves the right to seek clarifications or to waive, at its sole discretion, a response's minor variances from full compliance with this RFQ. If the State waives variances in a response, such waiver shall not modify the RFQ requirements or excuse the Respondent from full compliance with such, and the State may hold any resulting vendor to strict compliance with this RFQ.
- 4.8.3. The State will review the response evaluation record and any other available information pertinent to whether or not each respondent is responsive and responsible. If the evaluation team identifies any respondent that appears not to meet the responsive and responsible thresholds such that the team would not recommend the respondent for potential contract award, this determination will be fully documented for the record. ("Responsive" is defined as submitting a response that conforms in all material respects to the RFQ. "Responsible" is defined as having the capacity in all respects to perform fully the contract requirements, and the integrity and reliability which will assure good faith performance.)

#### 4.9. **Assignment & Subcontracting**

- 4.9.1. The vendor may not subcontract, transfer, or assign any portion of the Contract awarded as a result of this RFQ without prior approval of the State. The State reserves the right to refuse approval, at its sole discretion, of any subcontract, transfer, or assignment.
- 4.9.2. If a Respondent intends to use subcontractors, the response to this RFQ must specifically identify the scope and portions of the work each subcontractor will perform (refer to RFQ Attachment B, Item B.14.).



- 4.9.3. Subcontractors identified within a response to this RFQ will be deemed as approved by the State unless the State expressly disapproves one or more of the proposed subcontractors prior to signing the Contract.
- 4.9.4. The Contractor resulting from this RFQ may only substitute another subcontractor for a proposed subcontractor at the discretion of the State and with the State's prior, written approval.
- 4.9.5. Notwithstanding any State approval relating to subcontracts, the Contractor resulting from this RFQ will be the prime contractor and will be responsible for all work under the Contract.

4.10. **Next Ranked Respondent**

The State reserves the right to initiate negotiations with the next ranked respondent should the State cease doing business with any respondent selected via this RFQ process.

## 5. PROCUREMENT PROCESS & CONTRACT AWARD

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- 5.1. The complete vendor selection will be based on the Qualification of Technical Responses.
- 5.2. Qualification of Technical Responses: Technical Responses will be short-listed for further evaluation, analysis or negotiation if they are apparently responsive, responsible, and within the competitive range. A Technical Response will be deemed within the competitive range based on the following criterion:
- Technical Responses that have been evaluated in Phases I and II below and have been found to be responsive and responsible are considered to be within the Competitive Range. Respondents will have Technical scores totaled and put in ordinal ranking. The top ranked Respondent will receive cost proposal materials upon completion of ordinal rankings. If the State fails to come to an agreement with the Respondent, the State will move to the next ranked Respondent within the Competitive Range. Please see RFQ Section 5.3. for further instructions on the negotiation process.
- Phase I: The State will evaluate the Mandatory Requirements set forth in RFQ Attachment A on a pass/fail basis.
- Phase II: Following the Phase I evaluation, the State will apply a standard equitable evaluation model, which will represent a qualitative assessment of each response. Each response will be scored by Evaluation Team members according to the Technical Response & Evaluation Guides (See RFQ Attachments B & C).
- The Solicitation Coordinator will total the average score from the evaluation team for each responsive and responsible Respondent's Technical Response Points for RFQ Attachments B & C to determine which of the Respondents are considered Qualified and within the competitive range.
- 5.3. Clarifications and Negotiations: The State reserves the right to award a contract on the basis of initial responses received; therefore, each response should contain the respondent's best terms from a technical and cost standpoint. However, the State reserves the right to conduct clarifications or negotiations with respondents. All communications, clarifications, and negotiations shall be conducted in a manner that supports fairness in response improvement.
- 5.3.1. Clarifications: The State may identify areas of a response that may require further clarification or areas in which it is apparent that there may have been miscommunications or misunderstandings as to the State's specifications or requirements. The State may seek to clarify those issues identified during one or multiple clarification round(s). Each clarification sought by the State may be unique to an individual respondent.
- 5.3.2. Negotiations: The State may elect to negotiate with Qualified Respondents, within the competitive range, by requesting revised responses, negotiating costs, or finalizing contract terms and conditions. The State reserves the right to conduct multiple negotiation rounds.
- 5.3.2.1. Cost Negotiations: All responsive respondents within the competitive range will be given equivalent information with respect to cost negotiations. All cost negotiations will be documented for the procurement file. Additionally, the State may conduct target

pricing and other goods or services level negotiations. Target pricing may be based on considerations such as current pricing, market considerations, benchmarks, budget availability, or other methods that do not reveal individual respondent pricing. During target price negotiations, respondents are not obligated to meet or beat target prices, but will not be allowed to increase prices.

5.3.2.2. If the State determines costs and contract finalization discussions and negotiations are not productive, the State reserves the right to bypass the apparent best evaluated Respondent and enter into contract negotiations with the next apparent best evaluated Respondent.

#### 5.4. Evaluation Guide

The State will consider qualifications, experience, technical approach, and cost (if applicable) in the evaluation of responses and award points in each of the categories detailed below. The maximum evaluation points possible for each category are detailed below.

Evaluation Category	Maximum Points Possible
Mandatory Requirements (refer to RFQ Attachment A)	Pass/Fail
General Qualifications, Experience, Technical Qualifications, Experience & Approach (refer to RFQ Attachment B)	30
Technical Qualifications, Experience & Approach (refer to RFQ Attachment C)	70

#### 5.5. Contract Award

- 5.5.1. The Solicitation Coordinator will submit the Evaluation Team determinations and response scores to the head of the contracting agency, or the agency head's designee, for consideration along with any other relevant information that might be available and pertinent to contract award.
- 5.5.2. The contracting agency head, or the agency head's designee, will determine the apparent best-evaluated response. (To effect a contract award to a Respondent other than the one receiving the highest evaluation score, the head of the contracting agency must provide written justification and obtain written approval of the Chief Procurement Officer and the Comptroller of the Treasury.)
- 5.5.3. The State reserves the right to make an award without further discussion of any response.
- 5.5.4. The State will issue an Evaluation Notice and make the RFQ files available for public inspection at the time and date specified in the RFQ §2, Schedule of Events.

**NOTICE: The Evaluation Notice shall not create rights, interests, or claims of entitlement in either the Respondent identified as the apparent best evaluated or any other Respondent.**

- 5.5.5. The Respondent identified as offering the apparent best-evaluated must sign a contract drawn by the State pursuant to this RFQ. The contract shall be substantially the same as the RFQ Attachment F, *pro forma* contract. The Respondent must sign said contract no later than the Respondent Contract Signature Deadline detailed in RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events. If the Respondent fails to provide the signed contract by the deadline, the State may determine the Respondent is non-responsive to this RFQ and reject the response.

- 5.5.6. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the State may, at its sole discretion, entertain limited negotiation prior to contract signing and, as a result, revise the *pro forma* contract terms and conditions or performance requirements in the State's best interests, PROVIDED THAT such revision of terms and conditions or performance requirements shall NOT materially affect the basis of response evaluation or negatively impact the competitive nature of the RFQ and contractor selection process.
- 5.5.7. If the State determines that a response is nonresponsive and rejects it, the Solicitation Coordinator will re-calculate scores to determine (or re-determine) the apparent best-evaluated response.

**ATTACHMENT A****TECHNICAL RESPONSE & EVALUATION GUIDE**

All Respondents must address all items detailed below and provide, in sequence, the information and documentation as required (referenced with the associated item references). All Respondents must also detail the response page number for each item in the appropriate space below.

The Solicitation Coordinator will review all responses to determine if the Mandatory Requirement Items are addressed as required and mark each with pass or fail. For each item that is not addressed as required, the Evaluation Team must review the responses and attach a written determination. In addition to the Mandatory Requirement Items, the Solicitation Coordinator will review each response for compliance with all RFQ requirements.

<b>RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:</b>			
<b>Response Page #</b> (Respondent completes)	<b>Item Ref.</b>	<b>Section A— Mandatory Requirement Items</b>	<b>Pass/Fail</b>
		The Technical Response must be delivered to the State no later than the Technical Response Deadline specified in the RFQ § 2, Schedule of Events.	
		The Technical Response must not contain cost or pricing information of any type.	
		The Technical Response must not contain any restrictions of the rights of the State or other qualification of the response.	
		A Respondent must not submit alternate responses.	
		A Respondent must not submit multiple responses in different forms (as a prime and a subcontractor).	
	<b>A.1.</b>	Provide the Statement of Certifications and Assurances (RFQ Attachment E) completed and signed by an individual empowered to bind the Respondent to the provisions of this RFQ and any resulting contract. The document must be signed without exception or qualification.	
	<b>A.2.</b>	Provide a statement, based upon reasonable inquiry, of whether the Respondent or any individual who shall perform work under the contract has a possible conflict of interest (e.g., employment by the State of Tennessee) and, if so, the nature of that conflict.  NOTE: Any questions of conflict of interest shall be solely within the discretion of the State, and the State reserves the right to cancel any award.	
	<b>A.3.</b>	Provide a current bank reference indicating that the Respondent's business relationship with the financial institution is in positive standing. Such reference must be written in the form of a standard business letter, signed, and dated within the past three (3) months.	

<b>RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:</b>			
<b>Response Page #</b> (Respondent completes)	<b>Item Ref.</b>	<b>Section A— Mandatory Requirement Items</b>	<b>Pass/Fail</b>
	<b>A.4.</b>	Provide active CLIA certification demonstrating qualification to perform testing on materials derived from the human body for the purpose of providing information for the diagnosis, prevention, or treatment of any disease or impairment of, or assessment of the health of human beings.	
<i>State Use – RFQ Coordinator Signature, Printed Name &amp; Date:</i>			

**ATTACHMENT B****TECHNICAL RESPONSE & EVALUATION GUIDE**

**SECTION B: GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE.** The Respondent must address all items detailed below and provide, in sequence, the information and documentation as required (referenced with the associated item references). The Respondent must also detail the response page number for each item in the appropriate space below. Evaluation Team members will independently evaluate and assign one score for all responses to Section B— General Qualifications & Experience Items.

<b>RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:</b>		
<b>Response Page #</b> (Respondent completes)	<b>Item Ref.</b>	<b>Section B— General Qualifications &amp; Experience Items</b>
	<b>B.1.</b>	Detail the name, e-mail address, mailing address, telephone number, and facsimile number of the person the State should contact regarding the response.
	<b>B.2.</b>	Describe the Respondent's form of business ( <i>i.e.</i> , individual, sole proprietor, corporation, non-profit corporation, partnership, limited liability company) and business location (physical location or domicile).
	<b>B.3.</b>	Detail the number of years the Respondent has been in business.
	<b>B.4.</b>	Briefly describe how long the Respondent has been performing the goods or services required by this RFQ.
	<b>B.5.</b>	Describe the Respondent's number of employees, client base, and location of offices.
	<b>B.6.</b>	Provide a statement of whether there have been any mergers, acquisitions, or sales of the Respondent within the last ten (10) years. If so, include an explanation providing relevant details.
	<b>B.7.</b>	Provide a statement of whether the Respondent or, to the Respondent's knowledge, any of the Respondent's employees, agents, independent contractors, or subcontractors, proposed to provide work on a contract pursuant to this RFQ, have been convicted of, pled guilty to, or pled <i>nolo contendere</i> to any felony. If so, include an explanation providing relevant details.
	<b>B.8.</b>	Provide a statement of whether, in the last ten (10) years, the Respondent has filed (or had filed against it) any bankruptcy or insolvency proceeding, whether voluntary or involuntary, or undergone the appointment of a receiver, trustee, or assignee for the benefit of creditors. If so, include an explanation providing relevant details.
	<b>B.9.</b>	Provide a statement of whether there is any material, pending litigation against the Respondent that the Respondent should reasonably believe could adversely affect its ability to meet contract requirements pursuant to this RFQ or is likely to have a material adverse effect on the Respondent's financial condition. If such exists, list each separately, explain the relevant details, and attach the opinion of counsel addressing whether and to what extent it would impair the Respondent's performance in a contract pursuant to this RFQ.  NOTE: All persons, agencies, firms, or other entities that provide legal opinions regarding the Respondent must be properly licensed to render such opinions. The State may require

<b>RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:</b>		
<b>Response Page #</b> (Respondent completes)	<b>Item Ref.</b>	<b>Section B— General Qualifications &amp; Experience Items</b>
		the Respondent to submit proof of such licensure detailing the state of licensure and licensure number for each person or entity that renders such opinions.
	<b>B.10.</b>	Provide a statement of whether there is any pending or in progress Securities Exchange Commission investigations involving the Respondent. If such exists, list each separately, explain the relevant details, and attach the opinion of counsel addressing whether and to what extent it will impair the Respondent's performance in a contract pursuant to this RFQ.  NOTE: All persons, agencies, firms, or other entities that provide legal opinions regarding the Respondent must be properly licensed to render such opinions. The State may require the Respondent to submit proof of such licensure detailing the state of licensure and licensure number for each person or entity that renders such opinions.
	<b>B.11.</b>	Provide a brief, descriptive statement detailing evidence of the Respondent's ability to deliver the goods or services sought under this RFQ (e.g., prior experience, training, certifications, resources, program and quality management systems, etc.).
	<b>B.12.</b>	Provide a narrative description of the proposed contract team, its members, and organizational structure along with an organizational chart identifying the key people who will be assigned to provide the goods or services required by this RFQ, illustrating the lines of authority, and designating the individual responsible for the completion of each task and deliverable of the RFQ.
	<b>B.13.</b>	Provide a personnel roster listing the names of key people who the Respondent will assign to perform tasks required by this RFQ along with the estimated number of hours that each individual will devote to the required tasks. Follow the personnel roster with a resume for each of the people listed. The resumes must detail the individual's title, education, current position with the Respondent, and employment history.
	<b>B.14.</b>	Provide a statement of whether the Respondent intends to use subcontractors to accomplish the work required by this RFQ, and if so, detail: (a) the names of the subcontractors along with the contact person, mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address for each; (b) a description of the scope and portions of the work each subcontractor will perform; <u>and</u> (c) a statement specifying that each proposed subcontractor has expressly assented to being proposed as a subcontractor in the Respondent's response to this RFQ.
	<b>B.15.</b>	Provide documentation of the Respondent's commitment to diversity as represented by the following: (a) <u>Business Strategy</u> . Provide a description of the Respondent's existing programs and procedures designed to encourage and foster commerce with business enterprises owned by minorities, women, service-disabled veterans, businesses owned by persons with disabilities, and small business enterprises. Please also include a list of the Respondent's certifications as a diversity business, if applicable. (b) <u>Business Relationships</u> . Provide a listing of the Respondent's current contracts with business enterprises owned by minorities, women, service-disabled veterans,



RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:		
Response Page # (Respondent completes)	Item Ref.	Section B— General Qualifications & Experience Items
		<p>businesses owned by persons with disabilities, and small business enterprises. Please include the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) contract description;</li> <li>(ii) contractor name and ownership characteristics (<i>i.e.</i>, ethnicity, gender, service-disabled, disability); and</li> <li>(iii) contractor contact name and telephone number.</li> </ul> <p>(c) <u>Estimated Participation</u>. Provide an estimated level of participation by business enterprises owned by minorities, women, service-disabled veterans, businesses owned by persons with disabilities, and small business enterprises if a contract is awarded to the Respondent pursuant to this RFQ. Please include the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) a percentage (%) indicating the participation estimate. (Express the estimated participation number as a percentage of the total estimated contract value that will be dedicated to business with subcontractors and supply contractors having such ownership characteristics only and <b>DO NOT INCLUDE DOLLAR AMOUNTS</b>);</li> <li>(ii) anticipated goods or services contract descriptions;</li> <li>(iii) names and ownership characteristics (<i>i.e.</i>, ethnicity, gender, service-disabled veterans, disability) of anticipated subcontractors and supply contractors.</li> </ul> <p>NOTE: In order to claim status as a Diversity Business Enterprise under this contract, businesses must be certified by the Governor's Office of Diversity Business Enterprise (Go-DBE). Please visit the Go-DBE website at <a href="https://tn.diversitysoftware.com/FrontEnd/StartCertification.asp?TN=tn&amp;XID=9810">https://tn.diversitysoftware.com/FrontEnd/StartCertification.asp?TN=tn&amp;XID=9810</a> for more information.</p> <p>(d) <u>Workforce</u>. Provide the percentage of the Respondent's total current employees by ethnicity and gender.</p> <p>NOTE: Respondents that demonstrate a commitment to diversity will advance State efforts to expand opportunity to do business with the State as contractors and subcontractors. Response evaluations will recognize the positive qualifications and experience of a Respondent that does business with enterprises owned by minorities, women, service-disabled veterans, businesses owned by persons with disabilities, and small business enterprises and who offer a diverse workforce.</p>
	<b>B.16.</b>	<p>Provide a statement of whether or not the Respondent has any current contracts with the State of Tennessee or has completed any contracts with the State of Tennessee within the previous five-year period. If so, provide the following information for all current and completed contracts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the name, title, telephone number and e-mail address of the State contact responsible for the contract at issue;</li> <li>(b) the name of the procuring State agency;</li> <li>(c) a brief description of the contract's specification for goods or scope of services;</li> <li>(d) the contract term; and</li> <li>(e) the contract number.</li> </ul>
	<b>B.17.</b>	<p>Provide a statement and any relevant details addressing whether the Respondent is any of the following:</p>

<b>RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:</b>		
<b>Response Page #</b> (Respondent completes)	<b>Item Ref.</b>	<b>Section B— General Qualifications &amp; Experience Items</b>
		<p>(a) is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal or state department or agency;</p> <p>(b) has within the past three (3) years, been convicted of, or had a civil judgment rendered against the contracting party from commission of fraud, or a criminal offence in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or grant under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;</p> <p>(c) is presently indicted or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity (federal, state, or local) with commission of any of the offenses detailed above; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ has within a three (3) year period preceding the contract had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.</li> </ul>
<p><b>SCORE (for all Section B— Qualifications &amp; Experience Items above):</b> (maximum possible score = 30)</p>		
<p><i>State Use – Evaluator Identification:</i></p>		

**ATTACHMENT C**

**TECHNICAL RESPONSE & EVALUATION GUIDE**

**SECTION C: TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE & APPROACH.** The Respondent should explain its approach to providing goods or services to the State. The items listed below represent specific questions the State would request you answer in your response. For ease of review, please annotate your explanation so that it contains references to the items listed below where they are addressed. Respondent should not feel constrained to answer only the specific questions listed below in its explanation and should feel free to provide attachments if necessary in an effort to provide a more thorough response.

The Evaluation Team, made up of three (3) or more State employees, will independently evaluate and score the response to each item. Each evaluator will use the following whole number, raw point scale for scoring each item:

**0 = little value 1 = poor 2 = fair 3 = satisfactory 4 = good 5 = excellent**

The Solicitation Coordinator will multiply the Item Score by the associated Evaluation Factor (indicating the relative emphasis of the item in the overall evaluation). The resulting product will be the item’s raw, weighted score for purposes of calculating the section scores as indicated.

<b>RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:</b>					
<b>Response Page #</b> (Respondent completes)	<b>Item Ref.</b>	<b>Section C— Technical Qualifications, Experience &amp; Approach Items</b>	<b>Item Score</b>	<b>Evaluation Factor</b>	<b>Raw Weighted Score</b>
	<b>C.1.</b>	Provide a narrative that illustrates the Respondent’s understanding of the State’s requirements and project schedule.		1	
	<b>C.2.</b>	Provide a narrative that illustrates how the Respondent will complete the delivery of goods or scope of services, accomplish required objectives, and meet the State’s project schedule.		1	
	<b>C.3.</b>	Provide a narrative that illustrates how the Respondent will manage the project, ensure delivery of specified goods or completion of the scope of services, and accomplish required objectives within the State’s project schedule. <b>Show competence with regard to maintaining sample purity, testing accuracy, safe transport, and prompt processing and communication of test results</b>		1	
<i>The Solicitation Coordinator will use this sum and the formula below to calculate the section score. All calculations will use and result in numbers rounded to two (2) places to the right of the decimal point.</i>			<b>Total Raw Weighted Score:</b> (sum of Raw Weighted Scores above)		
<b>Total Raw Weighted Score</b>		<b>X 70</b> (maximum possible score)	<b>= SCORE:</b>		
<u>Maximum Possible Raw Weighted Score</u> (i.e., 5 x the sum of item weights above)					
<i>State Use – Evaluator Identification:</i>					

<b>RESPONDENT LEGAL ENTITY NAME:</b>					
<b>Response Page #</b> (Respondent completes)	<b>Item Ref.</b>	<b>Section C— Technical Qualifications, Experience &amp; Approach Items</b>	<b>Item Score</b>	<b>Evaluation Factor</b>	<b>Raw Weighted Score</b>
<i>State Use – Solicitation Coordinator Signature, Printed Name &amp; Date:</i>					

**ATTACHMENT D****STATEMENT OF CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES**

An individual responding in his or her individual capacity or legally empowered to contractually bind the Respondent must complete and sign the Statement of Certifications and Assurances below as required, and this signed statement must be included with the response as required by the Request for Qualifications.

**The Respondent does, hereby, expressly affirm, declare, confirm, certify, and assure ALL of the following:**

1. The Respondent will comply with all of the provisions and requirements of the RFQ.
2. The Respondent will provide all specified goods or services as required by the contract awarded pursuant to this RFQ.
3. The Respondent accepts and agrees to all terms and conditions set out in the contract awarded pursuant to this RFQ.
4. The Respondent acknowledges and agrees that a contract resulting from the RFQ shall incorporate, by reference, all Response responses as a part of the contract.
5. The Respondent will comply, as applicable, with:
  - (a) the laws of the State of Tennessee;
  - (b) Title VI of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964;
  - (c) Title IX of the federal Education Amendments Act of 1972;
  - (d) the Equal Employment Opportunity Act and the regulations issued there under by the federal government; and,
  - (e) the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the regulations issued there under by the federal government.
6. To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, information or belief, the information detailed within the Response to the RFQ is accurate.
7. The Response submitted to the RFQ was independently prepared, without collusion, and under penalty of perjury.
8. No amount shall be paid directly or indirectly to an employee or official of the State of Tennessee as wages, compensation, or gifts in exchange for acting as an officer, agent, employee, subcontractor, or consultant to the Respondent in connection with the request or any potential resulting contract.
9. The Response submitted in response to the RFQ shall remain valid for at least 120 days subsequent to the date of the Response opening and thereafter in accordance with any contract pursuant to the RFQ.
10. The Respondent affirms the following statement, as required by the Iran Divestment Act Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-12-111: "By submission of this bid, each bidder and each person signing on behalf of any bidder certifies, and in the case of a joint bid each party thereto certifies as to its own organization, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of its knowledge and belief that each bidder is not on the list created pursuant to § 12-12-106." For reference purposes, the list is currently available online at: <https://www.tn.gov/generalservices/procurement/central-procurement-office--cpo-/library-/public-information-library.html>.

**By signature below, the signatory certifies legal authority to bind the responding entity to the provisions of this request and any contract awarded pursuant to it. The State may, at its sole discretion and at any time, require evidence documenting the signatory's authority to be personally bound or to legally bind the responding entity.**

**DO NOT SIGN THIS DOCUMENT IF YOU ARE NOT LEGALLY AUTHORIZED TO DO SO BY THE ENTITY RESPONDING TO THIS RFQ.**

**SIGNATURE & DATE:**

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**PRINTED NAME & TITLE:**

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**LEGAL ENTITY NAME:**

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**ATTACHMENT E**
**REFERENCE QUESTIONNAIRE**

**The standard reference questionnaire provided on the following pages of this attachment should be completed by all individuals offering a reference for the Respondent**

The Respondent will be solely responsible for obtaining completed reference questionnaires as detailed below.. Provide references from individuals who are not current State employees of the procuring State Agency for projects similar to the goods or services sought under this RFP and which represent:

- two (2) contracts Respondent currently services that are similar in size and scope to the services required by this RFP; and
- three (3) completed contracts that are similar in size and scope to the services required by this RFP.

References from at least three (3) different individuals are required to satisfy the requirements above, e.g., an individual may provide a reference about a completed project and another reference about a currently serviced account. The individual contact reference provided for each contract or project shall not be a current State employee of the procuring State agency. Procuring State agencies that accept references from another State agency shall document, in writing, a plan to ensure that no contact is made between the procuring State agency and a referring State agency. The standard reference questionnaire, should be used and completed, and is provided on the next page of this RFP Attachment 6.4.

In order to obtain and submit the completed reference questionnaires following one of the two processes below.

Written:

- (a) Add the Respondent's name to the standard reference questionnaire at RFP Attachment 6.4. and make a copy for each reference.
- (b) Send a reference questionnaire and new, standard #10 envelope to each reference.
- (c) Instruct the reference to:
  - (i) complete the reference questionnaire;
  - (ii) sign and date the completed reference questionnaire;
  - (iii) seal the completed, signed, and dated reference questionnaire within the envelope provided;
  - (iv) sign his or her name in ink across the sealed portion of the envelope; and
  - (v) return the sealed envelope directly to the Respondent (the Respondent may wish to give each reference a deadline, such that the Respondent will be able to collect all required references in time to include them within the sealed Technical Response).
- (d) Do NOT open the sealed references upon receipt.
- (e) Enclose all sealed reference envelopes within a larger, labeled envelope for inclusion in the Technical Response as required.

Email:

- (a) Add the Respondent's name to the standard reference questionnaire at RFP Attachment 6.4. and make a copy for each reference.
- (b) E-mail a reference questionnaire to each reference.
- (c) Instruct the reference to:
  - (i) complete the reference questionnaire;
  - (ii) sign and date the completed reference questionnaire;

- (iii) E-mail the reference directly to the Solicitation Coordinator by the RFP Technical Response Deadline with the Subject line of the e-mail as “[Respondent’s Name] Reference for RFP # **32399-00901**”.

NOTES:

- The State will not accept late references or references submitted by any means other than the two which are described above, and each reference questionnaire submitted must be completed as required.
- The State will not review more than the number of required references indicated above.
- While the State will base its reference check on the contents of the reference e-mails or sealed reference envelopes included in the Technical Response package, the State reserves the right to confirm and clarify information detailed in the completed reference questionnaires, and may consider clarification responses in the evaluation of references.
- The State is under no obligation to clarify any reference information.



**RFP # NUMBER REFERENCE QUESTIONNAIRE**

**REFERENCE SUBJECT:** RESPONDENT NAME (completed by Respondent before reference is requested)

The “reference subject” specified above, intends to submit a response to the State of Tennessee in response to the Request for Proposals (RFP) indicated. As a part of such response, the reference subject must include a number of completed and sealed reference questionnaires (using this form).

Each individual responding to this reference questionnaire is asked to follow these instructions:

- complete this questionnaire (either using the form provided or an exact duplicate of this document);
- sign and date the completed questionnaire and follow either process outlined below;

**Physical:**

- seal the completed, signed, and dated questionnaire in a new standard #10 envelope;
- sign in ink across the sealed portion of the envelope; and
- return the sealed envelope containing the completed questionnaire directly to the reference subject.

**E-Mail:**

- e-mail the completed questionnaire to:  
Van Bryant, [van.bryant@tn.gov](mailto:van.bryant@tn.gov)

**(1) What is the name of the individual, company, organization, or entity responding to this reference questionnaire?**

**(2) Please provide the following information about the individual completing this reference questionnaire on behalf of the above-named individual, company, organization, or entity.**

<b>NAME:</b>	
<b>TITLE:</b>	
<b>TELEPHONE #</b>	
<b>E-MAIL ADDRESS:</b>	

**(3) What goods or services does/did the reference subject provide to your company or organization?**

- (4) **If the goods or services that the reference subject provided to your company or organization are completed, were the goods or services provided in compliance with the terms of the contract, on time, and within budget? If not, please explain.**
  
- (5) **If the reference subject is still providing goods or services to your company or organization, are these goods or services being provided in compliance with the terms of the contract, on time, and within budget? If not, please explain.**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- (6) **How satisfied are you with the reference subject's ability to perform based on your expectations and according to the contractual arrangements?**

**REFERENCE SIGNATURE:**

(by the individual completing this request for reference information)

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(must be the same as the signature across the envelope seal)

**DATE:**

**ATTACHMENT F**

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**RFQ # 32399-00901 PRO FORMA CONTRACT**

The *pro forma* contract detailed in following pages of this exhibit contains some “blanks” (signified by descriptions in capital letters) that will be completed with appropriate information in the final contract resulting from the RFQ.

**CONTRACT**  
**BETWEEN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE,**  
**TENNESSEE STATE VETERANS' HOMES BOARD**  
**AND**  
**CONTRACTOR NAME**

This Contract, by and between the State of Tennessee, Tennessee State Veterans' Homes Board ("State") and **Contractor Legal Entity Name** ("Contractor"), is for the provision of Laboratory Services, as further defined in the "SCOPE." State and Contractor may be referred to individually as a "Party" or collectively as the "Parties" to this Contract.

The Contractor is **a/an Individual, For-Profit Corporation, Non-Profit Corporation, Special Purpose Corporation Or Association, Partnership, Joint Venture, Or Limited Liability Company.**

Contractor Place of Incorporation or Organization: **Location**

Contractor Edison Registration ID # **Number**

**A. SCOPE:**

A.1. The Contractor shall provide all service and deliverables as required, described, and detailed herein and shall meet all service and delivery timelines as specified by this Contract.

A.2. Definitions. The following definitions are provided to clarify terms related to the provision of laboratory services under this Contract.

a. "Draw" means collection by venipuncture of blood for laboratory analysis pursuant to a physician order.

b. "TSVHB Facilities" means the existing TSVHB facilities listed below, the TSVHB facility planned for Bradley County, and any new TSVHB facilities opened during the term of this contract. The existing TSVHB facilities are:

i. Tennessee State Veterans' Home, 345 Compton Road, Murfreesboro, TN 37130, (615) 895-8850

ii. W.D. Manning Tennessee State Veterans' Home, 2865 Main Street, Humboldt, TN 38343, (731) 784-8405

iii. Brigadier General Wendell H. Gilbert Tennessee State Veterans' Home, 250 Arrowood Drive, Clarksville, TN 37042, (931) 245-4700

iv. Senator Ben Atchley Tennessee State Veterans' Home, One Veterans Way, Knoxville, TN 37931, (865) 862-8100

v. Tennessee State Veterans' Home, 1940 Westland Drive SW, Cleveland, TN 37311

c. "Stat Service" means any service requested to be performed after the regularly scheduled Monday through Saturday morning visit or at any time on Sunday and holidays

d. "PT/INR" means a prothrombin time test that measures the time it takes for a clot to form in a blood sample. An INR is a calculation based on the results.

e. "Director of Nursing" means the Registered Nurse in charge of nursing care at TSVHB facilities.

A.3. Contractor Responsibilities.

- a. Contractor shall, upon notification by Facility of a need for testing, provide qualified personnel to Draw the requested sample(s) at the Facility's premises.
  - b. Contractor warrants that all laboratory personnel shall have the qualifications, certifications, and/or licenses necessary under federal and state law or regulation to provide the services contemplated by this agreement. Contractor shall maintain on file at the Facility a current copy of the Laboratory Director's license and certifications and licenses of laboratory personnel providing services under this Contract.
  - c. Contractor shall maintain on file at the Facility a current copy of its Certificate of Compliance or Certificate of Accreditation.
  - d. Contractor must meet all applicable requirements of 42 CFR Part 493.
  - e. Laboratory tests will be completed and results provided to the Facility electronically within timeframes normal for appropriate intervention. For the majority of routine tests, the normal timeframe for results should be not greater than 24 hours. Critical or panic level laboratory results should be reported to the Facility immediately upon completion of such test results, and not later than within two (2) hours.
  - f. Contractor will provide routine laboratory reports to residents' physicians within 24 hours depending upon the type of test;
  - g. Contractor will provide routine phlebotomy services six (6) days a week, Monday through Saturday. Stat services will be available upon request. Contractor will provide stat services as soon as possible, upon receipt of a request for such services, and not later than within a two (2) hour time frame. Stat services will be treated under the same notification requirement as critical or panic level service.
  - h. Contractor shall provide infection control and other reports electronically to the Facility by the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) day of each month for the prior month's services. Monthly reports shall include, but not be limited to Antibiotic Report, Cultures Report broken down by bacteria identified, Critical Value Labs Report and PT/INR Report. As the need may arise, Contractor shall work with Facility Director of Nursing or his/her designee to develop new or revised reports.
  - i. Contractor shall furnish the means to transport specimens from the Facility to the laboratory and to transport test results back to Facility. Transportation shall be conducted in a manner consistent with industry standards designed to insure safety. Contractor shall use all means necessary, including refrigeration (if needed), in order to maintain purity and efficacy of samples and test results to and from TSVHB facilities.
  - j. Contractor agrees to furnish emergency supplies for the procurement of specimens by the appropriate nursing personnel as needed. This shall include, but not be limited to a stocked phlebotomy tray, cultettes, urine cups and media for cultures.
- A.4. The Contractor shall provide a criminal background check for any person employed or contracted by Contractor who provides direct care to a resident of Facility and shall report the results of the criminal background check to Facility upon request of the Facility or State. The Contractor shall ensure that the criminal background check is conducted by either the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, a professional background screening organization, or a criminal background check service or registry.
- A.5. The Contractor shall complete and return any Title VI self-survey requested by the Facility or State in a timely manner.
- A.6. The Contractor and any person employed or contracted by Contractor shall sign in and out when entering and exiting Facility as per TSVHB policy and procedure.

**B. TERM OF CONTRACT:**

This Contract shall be effective on May 1, 2023 (“Effective Date”) and extend for a period of sixty (60) months after the Effective Date (“Term”). The State shall have no obligation for goods or services provided by the Contractor prior to the Effective Date.

**C. PAYMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

C.1. Maximum Liability. In no event shall the maximum liability of the State under this Contract exceed ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) (“Maximum Liability”). This Contract does not grant the Contractor any exclusive rights. The State does not guarantee that it will buy any minimum quantity of goods or services under this Contract. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Contract, the Contractor will only be paid for goods or services provided under this Contract after a purchase order is issued to Contractor by the State or as otherwise specified by this Contract.

C.2. Compensation Firm. The payment methodology in Section C.3. of this Contract shall constitute the entire compensation due the Contractor for all goods or services provided under this Contract regardless of the difficulty, materials or equipment required. The payment methodology includes all applicable taxes, fees, overhead, and all other direct and indirect costs incurred or to be incurred by the Contractor.

C.3. Payment Methodology. The Contractor shall be compensated based on the payment methodology for goods or services authorized by the State in a total amount as set forth in Section C.1.

- a. The Contractor’s compensation shall be contingent upon the satisfactory provision of goods or services as set forth in Section A.
- b. The Contractor shall be compensated based upon the following payment methodology:

<b>Goods or Services Description</b>	<b>Amount</b> (per compensable increment)
Phlebotomy Service Fee	\$ per Draw
Stat Service Fee	\$ per Trip
Laboratory Test Fee	##% of Medicare Part B Fee Schedule effective a the time of performance

- c. Contractor agrees to effect all billing to respective insurance agencies, Medicare /Medicaid, or private payors. Compensation rendered by above agencies or individuals will be considered as payment in full, when coverage applies.
- d. The exception to the aforementioned billing stipulation is for residents with service-connected disabilities of seventy percent (70%) or greater and residents covered by Medicare Part A for their care. For these residents, Contractor will provide a detailed invoice for services categorized by resident for services performed in the immediately preceding month in accordance with Section C.5.

C.4. Travel Compensation. The Contractor shall not be compensated or reimbursed for travel time, travel expenses, meals, or lodging.

C.5. Invoice Requirements. The Contractor shall invoice the State only for goods delivered and accepted by the State or services satisfactorily provided at the amounts stipulated in Section C.3., above. Contractor shall submit invoices and necessary supporting documentation, no more frequently than once a month, and no later than thirty (30) days after goods or services have

been provided to the following address:

Tennessee State Veterans' Homes Board  
P.O. Box 10748  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129  
Fax: 615-898-1619

a. Each invoice, on Contractor's letterhead, shall clearly and accurately detail all of the following information (calculations must be extended and totaled correctly):

- (1) Invoice number (assigned by the Contractor);
- (2) Invoice date;
- (3) Contract number (assigned by the State);
- (4) Customer account name: Tennessee State Veterans' Homes Board
- (5) Customer account number (assigned by the Contractor to the above-referenced Customer);
- (6) Contractor name;
- (7) Contractor Tennessee Edison registration ID number;
- (8) Contractor contact for invoice questions (name, phone, or email);
- (9) Contractor remittance address;
- (10) Description of delivered goods or services provided and invoiced, including identifying information as applicable;
- (11) Number of delivered or completed units, increments, hours, or days as applicable, of each good or service invoiced;
- (12) Applicable payment methodology (as stipulated in Section C.3.) of each good or service invoiced;
- (13) Amount due for each compensable unit of good or service; and
- (14) Total amount due for the invoice period.

b. Contractor's invoices shall:

- (1) Only include charges for goods delivered or services provided as described in Section A and in accordance with payment terms and conditions set forth in Section C;
- (2) Only be submitted for goods delivered or services completed and shall not include any charge for future goods to be delivered or services to be performed;
- (3) Not include Contractor's taxes, which includes without limitation Contractor's sales and use tax, excise taxes, franchise taxes, real or personal property taxes, or income taxes; and
- (4) Include shipping or delivery charges only as authorized in this Contract.

c. The timeframe for payment (or any discounts) begins only when the State is in receipt of an invoice that meets the minimum requirements of this Section C.5.

C.6. Payment of Invoice. A payment by the State shall not prejudice the State's right to object to or question any payment, invoice, or other matter. A payment by the State shall not be construed as acceptance of goods delivered, any part of the services provided, or as approval of any amount invoiced.

C.7. Invoice Reductions. The Contractor's invoice shall be subject to reduction for amounts included in any invoice or payment that is determined by the State, on the basis of audits conducted in accordance with the terms of this Contract, to not constitute proper compensation for goods delivered or services provided.

C.8. Deductions. The State reserves the right to deduct from amounts, which are or shall become due and payable to the Contractor under this or any contract between the Contractor and the State of Tennessee, any amounts that are or shall become due and payable to the State of Tennessee by the Contractor.

C.9. Prerequisite Documentation. The Contractor shall not invoice the State under this Contract until the State has received the following, properly completed documentation.

- a. The Contractor shall complete, sign, and present to the State the "Authorization Agreement for Automatic Deposit Form" provided by the State. By doing so, the Contractor acknowledges and agrees that, once this form is received by the State, payments to the Contractor, under this or any other contract the Contractor has with the State of Tennessee, may be made by ACH; and
- b. The Contractor shall complete, sign, and return to the State the State-provided W-9 form. The taxpayer identification number on the W-9 form must be the same as the Contractor's Federal Employer Identification Number or Social Security Number referenced in the Contractor's Edison registration information.

**D. MANDATORY TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

D.1. Required Approvals. The State is not bound by this Contract until it is duly approved by the Parties and all appropriate State officials in accordance with applicable Tennessee laws and regulations. Depending upon the specifics of this Contract, this may include approvals by the Commissioner of Finance and Administration, the Commissioner of Human Resources, the Comptroller of the Treasury, and the Chief Procurement Officer. Approvals shall be evidenced by a signature or electronic approval.

D.2. Communications and Contacts. All instructions, notices, consents, demands, or other communications required or contemplated by this Contract shall be in writing and shall be made by certified, first class mail, return receipt requested and postage prepaid, by overnight courier service with an asset tracking system, or by email or facsimile transmission with recipient confirmation. All communications, regardless of method of transmission, shall be addressed to the respective Party at the appropriate mailing address, facsimile number, or email address as stated below or any other address provided in writing by a Party.

The State:

Warren Jasper, Director of Risk Management  
Tennessee State Veterans' Homes Board  
345 Compton Road, Murfreesboro, TN 37130  
P.O. Box 11328, Murfreesboro, TN 37129  
[wjasper@tsvh.org](mailto:wjasper@tsvh.org)  
Telephone # 615-225-1804  
FAX # 615-898-1619

The Contractor:

**Contractor Contact Name & Title**  
**Contractor Name**  
**Address**  
**Email Address**  
**Telephone # Number**  
**FAX # Number**

All instructions, notices, consents, demands, or other communications shall be considered effective upon receipt or recipient confirmation as may be required.

D.3. Modification and Amendment. This Contract may be modified only by a written amendment signed by all Parties and approved by all applicable State officials.

D.4. Subject to Funds Availability. The Contract is subject to the appropriation and availability of State or federal funds. In the event that the funds are not appropriated or are otherwise unavailable, the State reserves the right to terminate this Contract upon written notice to the Contractor. The State's exercise of its right to terminate this Contract shall not constitute a breach of Contract by



the State. Upon receipt of the written notice, the Contractor shall cease all work associated with the Contract. If the State terminates this Contract due to lack of funds availability, the Contractor shall be entitled to compensation for all conforming goods requested and accepted by the State and for all satisfactory and authorized services completed as of the termination date. Should the State exercise its right to terminate this Contract due to unavailability of funds, the Contractor shall have no right to recover from the State any actual, general, special, incidental, consequential, or any other damages of any description or amount.

- D.5. Termination for Convenience. The State may terminate this Contract for convenience without cause and for any reason. The State shall give the Contractor at least thirty (30) days written notice before the termination date. The Contractor shall be entitled to compensation for all conforming goods delivered and accepted by the State or for satisfactory, authorized services completed as of the termination date. In no event shall the State be liable to the Contractor for compensation for any goods neither requested nor accepted by the State or for any services neither requested by the State nor satisfactorily performed by the Contractor. In no event shall the State's exercise of its right to terminate this Contract for convenience relieve the Contractor of any liability to the State for any damages or claims arising under this Contract.
- D.6. Termination for Cause. If the Contractor fails to properly perform its obligations under this Contract in a timely or proper manner, or if the Contractor materially violates any terms of this Contract ("Breach Condition"), the State shall have the right to immediately terminate the Contract and withhold payments in excess of compensation for completed services or provided goods. Notwithstanding the above, the Contractor shall not be relieved of liability to the State for damages sustained by virtue of any Breach Condition and the State may seek other remedies allowed at law or in equity for breach of this Contract.
- D.7. Assignment and Subcontracting. The Contractor shall not assign this Contract or enter into a subcontract for any of the goods or services provided under this Contract without the prior written approval of the State. Notwithstanding any use of the approved subcontractors, the Contractor shall be the prime contractor and responsible for compliance with all terms and conditions of this Contract. The State reserves the right to request additional information or impose additional terms and conditions before approving an assignment of this Contract in whole or in part or the use of subcontractors in fulfilling the Contractor's obligations under this Contract.
- D.8. Conflicts of Interest. The Contractor warrants that no part of the Contractor's compensation shall be paid directly or indirectly to an employee or official of the State of Tennessee as wages, compensation, or gifts in exchange for acting as an officer, agent, employee, subcontractor, or consultant to the Contractor in connection with any work contemplated or performed under this Contract.
- The Contractor acknowledges, understands, and agrees that this Contract shall be null and void if the Contractor is, or within the past six (6) months has been, an employee of the State of Tennessee or if the Contractor is an entity in which a controlling interest is held by an individual who is, or within the past six (6) months has been, an employee of the State of Tennessee.
- D.9. Nondiscrimination. The Contractor hereby agrees, warrants, and assures that no person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the performance of this Contract or in the employment practices of the Contractor on the grounds of handicap or disability, age, race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin, or any other classification protected by federal or state law. The Contractor shall, upon request, show proof of nondiscrimination and shall post in conspicuous places, available to all employees and applicants, notices of nondiscrimination.
- D.10. Prohibition of Illegal Immigrants. The requirements of Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-3-309 addressing the use of illegal immigrants in the performance of any contract to supply goods or services to the state of Tennessee, shall be a material provision of this Contract, a breach of which shall be grounds for monetary and other penalties, up to and including termination of this Contract.

- a. The Contractor agrees that the Contractor shall not knowingly utilize the services of an illegal immigrant in the performance of this Contract and shall not knowingly utilize the services of any subcontractor who will utilize the services of an illegal immigrant in the performance of this Contract. The Contractor shall reaffirm this attestation, in writing, by submitting to the State a completed and signed copy of the document at Attachment A, semi-annually during the Term. If the Contractor is a party to more than one contract with the State, the Contractor may submit one attestation that applies to all contracts with the State. All Contractor attestations shall be maintained by the Contractor and made available to State officials upon request.
  - b. Prior to the use of any subcontractor in the performance of this Contract, and semi-annually thereafter, during the Term, the Contractor shall obtain and retain a current, written attestation that the subcontractor shall not knowingly utilize the services of an illegal immigrant to perform work under this Contract and shall not knowingly utilize the services of any subcontractor who will utilize the services of an illegal immigrant to perform work under this Contract. Attestations obtained from subcontractors shall be maintained by the Contractor and made available to State officials upon request.
  - c. The Contractor shall maintain records for all personnel used in the performance of this Contract. Contractor's records shall be subject to review and random inspection at any reasonable time upon reasonable notice by the State.
  - d. The Contractor understands and agrees that failure to comply with this section will be subject to the sanctions of Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-3-309 for acts or omissions occurring after its effective date.
  - e. For purposes of this Contract, "illegal immigrant" shall be defined as any person who is not: (i) a United States citizen; (ii) a Lawful Permanent Resident; (iii) a person whose physical presence in the United States is authorized; (iv) allowed by the federal Department of Homeland Security and who, under federal immigration laws or regulations, is authorized to be employed in the U.S.; or (v) is otherwise authorized to provide services under the Contract.
- D.11. Records. The Contractor shall maintain documentation for all charges under this Contract. The books, records, and documents of the Contractor, for work performed or money received under this Contract, shall be maintained for a period of five (5) full years from the date of the final payment and shall be subject to audit at any reasonable time and upon reasonable notice by the State, the Comptroller of the Treasury, or their duly appointed representatives. The financial statements shall be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.
- D.12. Monitoring. The Contractor's activities conducted and records maintained pursuant to this Contract shall be subject to monitoring and evaluation by the State, the Comptroller of the Treasury, or their duly appointed representatives.
- D.13. Progress Reports. The Contractor shall submit brief, periodic, progress reports to the State as requested.
- D.14. Strict Performance. Failure by any Party to this Contract to require, in any one or more cases, the strict performance of any of the terms, covenants, conditions, or provisions of this Contract shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment of any term, covenant, condition, or provision. No term or condition of this Contract shall be held to be waived, modified, or deleted except by a written amendment signed by the Parties.
- D.15. Independent Contractor. The Parties shall not act as employees, partners, joint venturers, or associates of one another. The Parties are independent contracting entities. Nothing in this Contract shall be construed to create an employer/employee relationship or to allow either Party to exercise control or direction over the manner or method by which the other transacts its business affairs or provides its usual services. The employees or agents of one Party are not employees or agents of the other Party.

- D.16 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The Contractor agrees that it will be responsible for compliance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ("PPACA") with respect to itself and its employees, including any obligation to report health insurance coverage, provide health insurance coverage, or pay any financial assessment, tax, or penalty for not providing health insurance. The Contractor shall indemnify the State and hold it harmless from any costs to the State arising from Contractor's failure to fulfill its PPACA responsibilities for itself or its employees.
- D.17. Limitation of State's Liability. The State shall have no liability except as specifically provided in this Contract. In no event will the State be liable to the Contractor or any other party for any lost revenues, lost profits, loss of business, decrease in the value of any securities or cash position, time, goodwill, or any indirect, special, incidental, punitive, exemplary or consequential damages of any nature, whether based on warranty, contract, statute, regulation, tort (including but not limited to negligence), or any other legal theory that may arise under this Contract or otherwise. The State's total liability under this Contract (including any exhibits, schedules, amendments or other attachments to the Contract) or otherwise shall under no circumstances exceed the Maximum Liability. This limitation of liability is cumulative and not per incident.
- D.18. Limitation of Contractor's Liability. In accordance with Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-3-701, the Contractor's liability for all claims arising under this Contract shall be limited to an amount equal to two (2) times the Maximum Liability amount detailed in Section C.1. and as may be amended, PROVIDED THAT in no event shall this Section limit the liability of the Contractor for: (i) intellectual property or any Contractor indemnity obligations for infringement for third-party intellectual property rights; (ii) any claims covered by any specific provision in the Contract providing for liquidated damages; or (iii) any claims for intentional torts, criminal acts, fraudulent conduct, or acts or omissions that result in personal injuries or death. For clarity, except as otherwise expressly set forth in this Section, Contractor's indemnification obligations and other remedies available under this Contract are subject to the limitations on liability set forth in this Section.
- D.19. Hold Harmless. The Contractor agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the State of Tennessee as well as its officers, agents, and employees from and against any and all claims, liabilities, losses, and causes of action which may arise, accrue, or result to any person, firm, corporation, or other entity which may be injured or damaged as a result of acts, omissions, or negligence on the part of the Contractor, its employees, or any person acting for or on its or their behalf relating to this Contract. The Contractor further agrees it shall be liable for the reasonable cost of attorneys' fees, court costs, expert witness fees, and other litigation expenses for the State to enforce the terms of this Contract.

In the event of any suit or claim, the Parties shall give each other immediate notice and provide all necessary assistance to respond. The failure of the State to give notice shall only relieve the Contractor of its obligations under this Section to the extent that the Contractor can demonstrate actual prejudice arising from the failure to give notice. This Section shall not grant the Contractor, through its attorneys, the right to represent the State in any legal matter, as the right to represent the State is governed by Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-6-106.

- D.20. HIPAA Compliance. The State and Contractor shall comply with obligations under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA"), Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health ("HITECH") Act and any other relevant laws and regulations regarding privacy (collectively the "Privacy Rules"). The obligations set forth in this Section shall survive the termination of this Contract.
- a. Contractor warrants to the State that it is familiar with the requirements of the Privacy Rules, and will comply with all applicable requirements in the course of this Contract.
  - b. Contractor warrants that it will cooperate with the State, including cooperation and coordination with State privacy officials and other compliance officers required by the

Privacy Rules, in the course of performance of the Contract so that both parties will be in compliance with the Privacy Rules.

- c. The State and the Contractor will sign documents, including but not limited to business associate agreements, as required by the Privacy Rules and that are reasonably necessary to keep the State and Contractor in compliance with the Privacy Rules. This provision shall not apply if information received or delivered by the parties under this Contract is NOT “protected health information” as defined by the Privacy Rules, or if the Privacy Rules permit the parties to receive or deliver the information without entering into a business associate agreement or signing another document.
  - d. The Contractor will indemnify the State and hold it harmless for any violation by the Contractor or its subcontractors of the Privacy Rules. This includes the costs of responding to a breach of protected health information, the costs of responding to a government enforcement action related to the breach, and any fines, penalties, or damages paid by the State because of the violation.
- D.21. Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System. Subject to statutory exceptions contained in Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 8-36-801, *et seq.*, the law governing the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System (“TCRS”), provides that if a retired member of TCRS, or of any superseded system administered by TCRS, or of any local retirement fund established under Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 8-35-101, *et seq.*, accepts State employment, the member's retirement allowance is suspended during the period of the employment. Accordingly and notwithstanding any provision of this Contract to the contrary, the Contractor agrees that if it is later determined that the true nature of the working relationship between the Contractor and the State under this Contract is that of “employee/employer” and not that of an independent contractor, the Contractor, if a retired member of TCRS, may be required to repay to TCRS the amount of retirement benefits the Contractor received from TCRS during the Term.
- D.22. Tennessee Department of Revenue Registration. The Contractor shall comply with all applicable registration requirements contained in Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 67-6-601 – 608. Compliance with applicable registration requirements is a material requirement of this Contract.
- D.23. Debarment and Suspension. The Contractor certifies, to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it, its current and future principals, its current and future subcontractors and their principals:
- a. are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal or state department or agency;
  - b. have not within a three (3) year period preceding this Contract been convicted of, or had a civil judgment rendered against them from commission of fraud, or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or grant under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification, or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
  - c. are not presently indicted or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity (federal, state, or local) with commission of any of the offenses detailed in section b. of this certification; and
  - d. have not within a three (3) year period preceding this Contract had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.

The Contractor shall provide immediate written notice to the State if at any time it learns that there was an earlier failure to disclose information or that due to changed circumstances, its principals or the principals of its subcontractors are excluded, disqualified, or presently fall under any of the prohibitions of sections a-d.

- D.24. Force Majeure. "Force Majeure Event" means fire, flood, earthquake, elements of nature or acts of God, wars, riots, civil disorders, rebellions or revolutions, acts of terrorism or any other similar cause beyond the reasonable control of the Party except to the extent that the non-performing Party is at fault in failing to prevent or causing the default or delay, and provided that the default or delay cannot reasonably be circumvented by the non-performing Party through the use of alternate sources, workaround plans or other means. A strike, lockout or labor dispute shall not excuse either Party from its obligations under this Contract. Except as set forth in this Section, any failure or delay by a Party in the performance of its obligations under this Contract arising from a Force Majeure Event is not a default under this Contract or grounds for termination. The non-performing Party will be excused from performing those obligations directly affected by the Force Majeure Event, and only for as long as the Force Majeure Event continues, provided that the Party continues to use diligent, good faith efforts to resume performance without delay. The occurrence of a Force Majeure Event affecting Contractor's representatives, suppliers, subcontractors, customers or business apart from this Contract is not a Force Majeure Event under this Contract. Contractor will promptly notify the State of any delay caused by a Force Majeure Event (to be confirmed in a written notice to the State within one (1) day of the inception of the delay) that a Force Majeure Event has occurred, and will describe in reasonable detail the nature of the Force Majeure Event. If any Force Majeure Event results in a delay in Contractor's performance longer than forty-eight (48) hours, the State may, upon notice to Contractor: (a) cease payment of the fees for the affected obligations until Contractor resumes performance of the affected obligations; or (b) immediately terminate this Contract or any purchase order, in whole or in part, without further payment except for fees then due and payable. Contractor will not increase its charges under this Contract or charge the State any fees other than those provided for in this Contract as the result of a Force Majeure Event.
- D.25. State and Federal Compliance. The Contractor shall comply with all State and federal laws and regulations applicable to Contractor in the Contractor's performance of this Contract.
- D.26. Governing Law. This Contract shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Tennessee, without regard to its conflict or choice of law rules. The Tennessee Claims Commission or the state or federal courts in Tennessee shall be the venue for all claims, disputes, or disagreements arising under this Contract. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that any rights, claims, or remedies against the State of Tennessee or its employees arising under this Contract shall be subject to and limited to those rights and remedies available under Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 9-8-101 - 408.
- D.27. Entire Agreement. This Contract is complete and contains the entire understanding between the Parties relating to its subject matter, including all the terms and conditions of the Parties' agreement. This Contract supersedes any and all prior understandings, representations, negotiations, and agreements between the Parties, whether written or oral.
- D.28. Severability. If any terms and conditions of this Contract are held to be invalid or unenforceable as a matter of law, the other terms and conditions of this Contract shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect. The terms and conditions of this Contract are severable.
- D.29. Headings. Section headings of this Contract are for reference purposes only and shall not be construed as part of this Contract.
- D.30. Incorporation of Additional Documents. Each of the following documents is included as a part of this Contract by reference. In the event of a discrepancy or ambiguity regarding the Contractor's duties, responsibilities, and performance under this Contract, these items shall govern in order of precedence below:
- a. any amendment to this Contract, with the latter in time controlling over any earlier amendments;
  - b. this Contract with any attachments or exhibits (excluding the items listed at subsections c. through f., below), which includes Attachment A, and Attachment B;
  - c. any clarifications of or addenda to the Contractor's proposal seeking this Contract;

- d. the State solicitation, as may be amended, requesting responses in competition for this Contract;
- e. any technical specifications provided to proposers during the procurement process to award this Contract; and
- f. the Contractor's response seeking this Contract.

D.31. Iran Divestment Act. The requirements of Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-12-101, *et seq.*, addressing contracting with persons as defined at Tenn. Code Ann. §12-12-103(5) that engage in investment activities in Iran, shall be a material provision of this Contract. The Contractor certifies, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of its knowledge and belief that it is not on the list created pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 12-12-106.

D.32. Insurance. Contractor shall maintain insurance coverage as specified in this Section. The State reserves the right to amend or require additional insurance coverage, coverage amounts, and endorsements required under this Contract. Contractor's failure to maintain or submit evidence of insurance coverage, as required, is a material breach of this Contract. If Contractor loses insurance coverage, fails to renew coverage, or for any reason becomes uninsured during the Term, Contractor shall immediately notify the State. All insurance companies providing coverage must be: (a) acceptable to the State; (b) authorized by the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance ("TDCI"); and (c) rated A- / VII or better by A.M. Best. All coverage must be on a primary basis and noncontributory with any other insurance or self-insurance carried by the State. Contractor agrees to name the State as an additional insured on any insurance policy with the exception of workers' compensation (employer liability) and professional liability (errors and omissions) insurance. All policies must contain an endorsement for a waiver of subrogation in favor of the State. Any deductible or self insured retention ("SIR") over fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) must be approved by the State. The deductible or SIR and any premiums are the Contractor's sole responsibility. The Contractor agrees that the insurance requirements specified in this Section do not reduce any liability the Contractor has assumed under this Contract including any indemnification or hold harmless requirements.

To achieve the required coverage amounts, a combination of an otherwise deficient specific policy and an umbrella policy with an aggregate meeting or exceeding the required coverage amounts is acceptable. For example: If the required policy limit under this Contract is for two million dollars (\$2,000,000) in coverage, acceptable coverage would include a specific policy covering one million dollars (\$1,000,000) combined with an umbrella policy for an additional one million dollars (\$1,000,000). If the deficient underlying policy is for a coverage area without aggregate limits (generally Automobile Liability and Employers' Liability Accident), Contractor shall provide a copy of the umbrella insurance policy documents to ensure that no aggregate limit applies to the umbrella policy for that coverage area. In the event that an umbrella policy is being provided to achieve any required coverage amounts, the umbrella policy shall be accompanied by an endorsement at least as broad as the Insurance Services Office, Inc. (also known as "ISO") "Noncontributory—Other Insurance Condition" endorsement or shall be written on a policy form that addresses both the primary and noncontributory basis of the umbrella policy if the State is otherwise named as an additional insured.

Contractor shall provide the State a certificate of insurance ("COI") evidencing the coverages and amounts specified in this Section. The COI must be on a form approved by the TDCI (standard ACORD form preferred). The COI must list each insurer's National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) number and be signed by an authorized representative of the insurer. The COI must list the State of Tennessee – CPO Risk Manager, 312 Rosa L. Parks Ave., 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Central Procurement Office, Nashville, TN 37243 as the certificate holder. Contractor shall provide the COI ten (10) business days prior to the Effective Date and again thirty (30) calendar days before renewal or replacement of coverage. Contractor shall provide the State evidence that all subcontractors maintain the required insurance or that subcontractors are included under the Contractor's policy. At any time, the State may require Contractor to provide a valid COI. The Parties agree that failure to provide evidence of insurance coverage as required is a material breach of this Contract. If Contractor self-insures, then a COI will not be required to prove coverage. Instead Contractor shall provide a certificate of self-insurance or a letter, on Contractor's letterhead, detailing its coverage, policy amounts, and proof of funds to reasonably

cover such expenses. The State reserves the right to require complete copies of all required insurance policies, including endorsements required by these specifications, at any time.

The State agrees that it shall give written notice to the Contractor as soon as practicable after the State becomes aware of any claim asserted or made against the State, but in no event later than thirty (30) calendar days after the State becomes aware of such claim. The failure of the State to give notice shall only relieve the Contractor of its obligations under this Section to the extent that the Contractor can demonstrate actual prejudice arising from the failure to give notice. This Section shall not grant the Contractor or its insurer, through its attorneys, the right to represent the State in any legal matter, as the right to represent the State is governed by Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-6-106.

**The insurance obligations under this Contract shall be: (1)—all the insurance coverage and policy limits carried by the Contractor; or (2)—the minimum insurance coverage requirements and policy limits shown in this Contract; whichever is greater. Any insurance proceeds in excess of or broader than the minimum required coverage and minimum required policy limits, which are applicable to a given loss, shall be available to the State. No representation is made that the minimum insurance requirements of the Contract are sufficient to cover the obligations of the Contractor arising under this Contract. The Contractor shall obtain and maintain, at a minimum, the following insurance coverages and policy limits.**

a. Commercial General Liability (“CGL”) Insurance

- 1) The Contractor shall maintain CGL, which shall be written on an ISO Form CG 00 01 occurrence form (or a substitute form providing equivalent coverage) and shall cover liability arising from property damage, premises and operations products and completed operations, bodily injury, personal and advertising injury, and liability assumed under an insured contract (including the tort liability of another assumed in a business contract).

The Contractor shall maintain single limits not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence. If a general aggregate limit applies, either the general aggregate limit shall apply separately to this policy or location of occurrence or the general aggregate limit shall be twice the required occurrence limit.

b. Workers’ Compensation and Employer Liability Insurance

- 1) For Contractors statutorily required to carry workers’ compensation and employer liability insurance, the Contractor shall maintain:
  - i. Workers’ compensation in an amount not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) including employer liability of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per accident for bodily injury by accident, one million dollars (\$1,000,000) policy limit by disease, and one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per employee for bodily injury by disease.
- 2) If the Contractor certifies that it is exempt from the requirements of Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 50-6-101 – 103, then the Contractor shall furnish written proof of such exemption for one or more of the following reasons:
  - i. The Contractor employs fewer than five (5) employees;
  - ii. The Contractor is a sole proprietor;
  - iii. The Contractor is in the construction business or trades with no employees;

- iv. The Contractor is in the coal mining industry with no employees;
    - v. The Contractor is a state or local government; or
    - vi. The Contractor self-insures its workers' compensation and is in compliance with the TDCI rules and Tenn. Code Ann. § 50-6-405.
  - c. Automobile Liability Insurance
    - 1) The Contractor shall maintain automobile liability insurance which shall cover liability arising out of any automobile (including owned, leased, hired, and non-owned automobiles).
    - 2) The Contractor shall maintain bodily injury/property damage with a limit not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence or combined single limit.
  - d. Professional Liability Insurance
    - i. Professional liability insurance shall be written on an occurrence basis or on a claims-made basis. If this coverage is written on a claims-made basis, then:
      - 1. The retroactive date must be shown, and must be on or before the earlier of the Effective Date of the Contract or the beginning of Contract work or provision of goods and services;
      - 2. Insurance must be maintained and evidence of insurance must be provided for at least five (5) full years from the date of the final Contract payment; and
      - 3. If coverage is canceled or non-renewed, and not replaced with another claims-made policy form with a retroactive date on or prior to the Contract Effective Date, the Contractor must purchase "extended reporting" or "tail coverage" for a minimum of five (5) full years from the date of the final Contract payment.
    - ii. Any professional liability insurance policy shall have a limit not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per claim and two million dollars (\$2,000,000) in the aggregate; and
    - iii. If the Contract involves the provision of services by medical professionals, a policy limit not less than three million (\$3,000,000) per claim and three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in the aggregate for medical malpractice insurance.
  - e. Sexual Abuse and Molestation Insurance
    - i. The Contractor shall maintain sexual abuse and molestation insurance written on either an occurrence or a claims-made basis. This insurance may be written on a claims-made basis, but in the event that coverage is cancelled or non-renewed, the Contractor shall purchase an extended reporting or "tail coverage" of at least two (2) years after the Term.



- ii. Any sexual abuse and molestation insurance policy shall have a limit not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and two million dollars (\$2,000,000) in the aggregate.
  - iii. In lieu of this coverage requirement, the Contractor may provide an Educator's Legal Liability (ELL) insurance policy endorsed to provide equivalent coverages as indicated in this provision.
- f. Technology Professional Liability (Errors & Omissions)/Cyber Liability Insurance
- 1) The Contractor shall maintain technology professional liability (errors & omissions)/cyber liability insurance appropriate to the Contractor's profession in an amount not less than ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) per occurrence or claim and ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) annual aggregate, covering all acts, claims, errors, omissions, negligence, infringement of intellectual property (including copyright, patent and trade secret); network security and privacy risks, including but not limited to unauthorized access, failure of security, information theft, damage to destruction of or alteration of electronic information, breach of privacy perils, wrongful disclosure and release of private information, collection, or other negligence in the handling of confidential information, and including coverage for related regulatory fines, defenses, and penalties.
  - 2) Such coverage shall include data breach response expenses, in an amount not less than ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) and payable whether incurred by the State or Contractor, including but not limited to consumer notification, whether or not required by law, computer forensic investigations, public relations and crisis management firm fees, credit file or identity monitoring or remediation services and expenses in the performance of services for the State or on behalf of the State hereunder.
- g. Crime Insurance
- 1) The Contractor shall maintain crime insurance, which shall be written on a "loss sustained form" or "loss discovered form" providing coverage for third party fidelity, including cyber theft and extortion. The policy must allow for reporting of circumstances or incidents that may give rise to future claims, include an extended reporting period of no less than two (2) years with respect to events which occurred but were not reported during the term of the policy, and not contain a condition requiring an arrest or conviction.
  - 2) Any crime insurance policy shall have a limit not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per claim and one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in the aggregate. Any crime insurance policy shall contain a Social Engineering Fraud Endorsement with a limit of not less than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000). This insurance may be written on a claims-made basis, but in the event that coverage is cancelled or non-renewed,

the Contractor shall purchase an extended reporting or “tail coverage” of at least two (2) years after the Term.

- D.33. Major Procurement Contract Sales and Use Tax. Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-39-102 and to the extent applicable, the Contractor and the Contractor’s subcontractors shall remit sales and use taxes on the sales of goods or services that are made by the Contractor or the Contractor’s subcontractors and that are subject to tax.
- D.34. Confidentiality of Records. Strict standards of confidentiality of records and information shall be maintained in accordance with applicable state and federal law. All material and information, regardless of form, medium or method of communication, provided to the Contractor by the State or acquired by the Contractor on behalf of the State that is regarded as confidential under state or federal law shall be regarded as “Confidential Information.” Nothing in this Section shall permit Contractor to disclose any Confidential Information, regardless of whether it has been disclosed or made available to the Contractor due to intentional or negligent actions or inactions of agents of the State or third parties. Confidential Information shall not be disclosed except as required or permitted under state or federal law. Contractor shall take all necessary steps to safeguard the confidentiality of such material or information in conformance with applicable state and federal law.

The obligations set forth in this Section shall survive the termination of this Contract.

- D.35. Boycott of Israel. The Contractor certifies that it is not currently engaged in, and covenants that it will not, for the duration of the Contract, engage in a Boycott of Israel, as that term is defined in Public Chapter No. 775.

**E. SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

- E.1. Conflicting Terms and Conditions. Should any of these special terms and conditions conflict with any other terms and conditions of this Contract, the special terms and conditions shall be subordinate to the Contract’s other terms and conditions.
- E.2. Contractor Commitment to Diversity. The Contractor shall comply with and make reasonable business efforts to exceed the commitment to diversity represented by the Contractor’s Response to RFQ 32399-00901 (Attachment B) and resulting in this Contract.

The Contractor shall assist the State in monitoring the Contractor’s performance of this commitment by providing, as requested, a monthly report of participation in the performance of this Contract by small business enterprises and businesses owned by minorities, women, service-disabled veterans, and persons with disabilities. Such reports shall be provided to the State of Tennessee Governor’s Office of Diversity Business Enterprise in the TN Diversity Software available online at:  
<https://tn.diversitysoftware.com/FrontEnd/StartCertification.asp?TN=tn&XID=9810>.

- E.3. Personally Identifiable Information. While performing its obligations under this Contract, Contractor may have access to Personally Identifiable Information held by the State (“PII”). For the purposes of this Contract, “PII” includes “Nonpublic Personal Information” as that term is defined in Title V of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act of 1999 or any successor federal statute, and the rules and regulations thereunder, all as may be amended or supplemented from time to time (“GLBA”) and personally identifiable information and other data protected under any other applicable laws, rule or regulation of any jurisdiction relating to disclosure or use of personal information (“Privacy Laws”). Contractor agrees it shall not do or omit to do anything which would cause the State to be in breach of any Privacy Laws. Contractor shall, and shall cause its employees, agents and representatives to: (i) keep PII confidential and may use and disclose PII only as necessary to carry out those specific aspects of the purpose for which the

PII was disclosed to Contractor and in accordance with this Contract, GLBA and Privacy Laws; and (ii) implement and maintain appropriate technical and organizational measures regarding information security to: (A) ensure the security and confidentiality of PII; (B) protect against any threats or hazards to the security or integrity of PII; and (C) prevent unauthorized access to or use of PII. Contractor shall immediately notify State: (1) of any disclosure or use of any PII by Contractor or any of its employees, agents and representatives in breach of this Contract; and (2) of any disclosure of any PII to Contractor or its employees, agents and representatives where the purpose of such disclosure is not known to Contractor or its employees, agents and representatives. The State reserves the right to review Contractor's policies and procedures used to maintain the security and confidentiality of PII and Contractor shall, and cause its employees, agents and representatives to, comply with all reasonable requests or directions from the State to enable the State to verify or ensure that Contractor is in full compliance with its obligations under this Contract in relation to PII. Upon termination or expiration of the Contract or at the State's direction at any time in its sole discretion, whichever is earlier, Contractor shall immediately return to the State any and all PII which it has received under this Contract and shall destroy all records of such PII.

The Contractor shall report to the State any instances of unauthorized access to or potential disclosure of PII in the custody or control of Contractor ("Unauthorized Disclosure") that come to the Contractor's attention. Any such report shall be made by the Contractor within twenty-four (24) hours after the Unauthorized Disclosure has come to the attention of the Contractor. Contractor shall take all necessary measures to halt any further Unauthorized Disclosures. The Contractor, at the sole discretion of the State, shall provide no cost credit monitoring services for individuals whose PII was affected by the Unauthorized Disclosure. The Contractor shall bear the cost of notification to all individuals affected by the Unauthorized Disclosure, including individual letters and public notice. The remedies set forth in this Section are not exclusive and are in addition to any claims or remedies available to this State under this Contract or otherwise available at law. The obligations set forth in this Section shall survive the termination of this Contract.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,**

**AMERICAN HEALTH ASSOCIATES, INC.:**

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**CONTRACTOR SIGNATURE**

**DATE**

---

**PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTOR SIGNATORY (above)**

**TENNESSEE STATE VETERANS' HOMES BOARD:**

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**John Watson, CHAIRMAN**

**DATE**

**APPROVED:**

---

**CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER**

**DATE**

---

**COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY**

**DATE**

**ATTESTATION RE PERSONNEL USED IN CONTRACT PERFORMANCE**

<p><b>If the attestation applies to more than one contract, modify this row accordingly.</b></p> <p><b>SUBJECT CONTRACT NUMBER:</b></p>	
<p><b>CONTRACTOR LEGAL ENTITY NAME:</b></p>	
<p><b>EDISON VENDOR IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:</b></p>	

**The Contractor, identified above, does hereby attest, certify, warrant, and assure that the Contractor shall not knowingly utilize the services of an illegal immigrant in the performance of this Contract and shall not knowingly utilize the services of any subcontractor who will utilize the services of an illegal immigrant in the performance of this Contract.**

---

**CONTRACTOR SIGNATURE**

NOTICE: This attestation MUST be signed by an individual empowered to contractually bind the Contractor. Attach evidence documenting the individual's authority to contractually bind the Contractor, unless the signatory is the Contractor's chief executive or president.

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**PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNATORY**

---

**DATE OF ATTESTATION**

**HIPAA BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT  
COMPLIANCE WITH PRIVACY AND SECURITY RULES**

THIS BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT (hereinafter "Agreement") is between **The State of Tennessee, Tennessee State Veterans' Homes Board** (hereinafter "Covered Entity") and **American Health Associates, Inc.** (hereinafter "Business Associate"). Covered Entity and Business Associate may be referred to herein individually as "Party" or collectively as "Parties."

**BACKGROUND**

Parties acknowledges that they are subject to the Privacy and Security Rules (45 CFR Parts 160 and 164) promulgated by the United States Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), Public Law 104-191 as amended by Public Law 111-5, Division A, Title XIII (the HITECH Act), in certain aspects of its operations.

Business Associate provides services to Covered Entity pursuant to one or more contractual relationships detailed below and hereinafter referred to as "Service Contracts."

**LIST OF AGREEMENTS AFFECTED BY THIS BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT:**

**Contract Name:**

**Execution Date:**

In the course of executing Service Contracts, Business Associate may come into contact with, use, or disclose Protected Health Information ("PHI"). Said Service Contract(s) are hereby incorporated by reference and shall be taken and considered as a part of this document the same as if fully set out herein.

In accordance with the federal privacy and security regulations set forth at 45 C.F.R. Part 160 and Part 164, Subparts A, C, D and E, which require Covered Entity to have a written memorandum with each of its Business Associates, the Parties wish to establish satisfactory assurances that Business Associate will appropriately safeguard PHI and, therefore, make this Agreement.

**DEFINITIONS**

Terms used, but not otherwise defined, in this Agreement shall have the same meaning as those terms in 45 CFR §§ 160.103, 164.103, 164.304, 164.501 and 164.504.

- 1.1 "Breach of the Security of the [Business Associate's Information] System" shall have the meaning set out in its definition at T.C.A. § 47-18-2107
- 1.2 "Business Associate" shall have the meaning set out in its definition at 45 C.F.R. § 160.103.
- 1.3 "Covered Entity" shall have the meaning set out in its definition at 45 C.F.R. § 160.103.
- 1.4 "Designated Record Set" shall have the meaning set out in its definition at 45 C.F.R. § 164.501.
- 1.5 "Electronic Protected Health Care Information" shall have the meaning set out in its definition at 45 C.F.R. § 160.103.
- 1.6 "Genetic Information" shall have the meaning set out in its definition at 45 C.F.R. § 160.103.
- 1.7 "Health Care Operations" shall have the meaning set out in its definition at 45 C.F.R. § 164.501.

- 1.8 "Individual" shall have the same meaning as the term "individual" in 45 CFR § 160.103 and shall include a person who qualifies as a personal representative in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.502(g).
- 1.9 "Information Holder" shall have the meaning set out in its definition at T.C.A. § 47-18-2107
- 1.10 "Marketing" shall have the meaning set out in its definition at 45 C.F.R. § 164.501.
- 1.11 "Personal information" shall have the meaning set out in its definition at T.C.A. § 47-18-2107
- 1.12 "Privacy Official" shall have the meaning as set out in its definition at 45 C.F.R. § 164.530(a)(1).
- 1.13 "Privacy Rule" shall mean the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information at 45 CFR Part 160 and Part 164, subparts A, and E.
- 1.14 "Protected Health Information" shall have the same meaning as the term "protected health information" in 45 CFR § 160.103, limited to the information created or received by Business Associate from or on behalf of Covered Entity.
- 1.15 "Required by Law" shall have the meaning set forth in 45 CFR § 164.512.
- 1.16 "Security Incident" shall have the meaning set out in its definition at 45 C.F.R. § 160.304.
- 1.17 "Security Rule" shall mean the Security Standards for the Protection of Electronic Protected Health Information at 45 CFR Parts 160 and 164, Subparts A and C.

## **2. OBLIGATIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF BUSINESS ASSOCIATE (Privacy Rule)**

- 2.1 Business Associate is authorized to use PHI for the purposes of carrying out its duties under the Services Contract. In the course of carrying out these duties, including but not limited to carrying out the Covered Entity's duties under HIPAA, Business Associate shall fully comply with the requirements under the Privacy Rule applicable to "business associates," as that term is defined in the Privacy Rule and not use or further disclose PHI other than as permitted or required by this Agreement, the Service Contracts, or as Required By Law. Business Associate is subject to requirements of the Privacy Rule as required by Public Law 111-5, Section 13404 [designated as 42 U.S.C. 17934] In case of any conflict between this Agreement and the Service Contracts, this Agreement shall govern.
- 2.2 The Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH) was adopted as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. HITECH and its implementing regulations impose new requirements on Business Associates with respect to privacy, security, and breach notification. Business Associate hereby acknowledges and agrees that to the extent it is functioning as a Business Associate of Covered Entity, Business Associate shall comply with HITECH. Business Associate and the Covered Entity further agree that the provisions of HIPAA and HITECH that apply to business associates and that are required to be incorporated by reference in a business associate agreement have been incorporated into this Agreement between Business Associate and Covered Entity. Should any provision not be set forth specifically, it is as if set forth in this Agreement in its entirety and is effective as of the Applicable Effective Date, and as amended.
- 2.3 Business Associate shall use appropriate administrative, physical, and technical safeguards to prevent use or disclosure of PHI other than as provided for by this Agreement, Services Contract(s), or as Required By Law. This includes the implementation of Administrative, Physical, and Technical Safeguards to reasonably and appropriately protect the Covered Entity's PHI against any reasonably anticipated threats or hazards, utilizing the technology commercially available to the

Business Associate. The Business Associate shall maintain appropriate documentation of its compliance with the Privacy Rule, including, but not limited to, its policies, procedures, records of training and sanctions of members of its Workforce.

- 2.4 Business Associate shall require any agent, including a subcontractor, to whom it provides PHI received from, maintained, created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity or that carries out any duties for the Business Associate involving the use, custody, disclosure, creation of, or access to PHI or other confidential information, to agree, by written contract with Business Associate, to the same restrictions and conditions that apply through this Agreement to Business Associate with respect to such information.
- 2.5 Business Associate shall mitigate, to the extent practicable, any harmful effect that is known to Business Associate of a use or disclosure of PHI by Business Associate in violation of the requirements of this Agreement.
- 2.6 Business Associate shall require its employees, agents, and subcontractors to promptly report, to Business Associate, immediately upon becoming aware of any use or disclosure of PHI in violation of this Agreement. Business Associate shall report to Covered Entity any use or disclosure of the PHI not provided for by this Agreement. Business Associate will also provide additional information reasonably requested by the Covered Entity related to the breach.
- 2.7 As required by the Breach Notification Rule, Business Associate shall, and shall require its subcontractor(s) to, maintain systems to monitor and detect a Breach of Unsecured PHI, whether in paper or electronic form.
  - 2.7.1 Business Associate shall provide to Covered Entity notice of a Provisional or Actual Breach of Unsecured PHI immediately upon becoming aware of the Breach.
  - 2.7.2 Business Associate shall cooperate with Covered Entity in timely providing the appropriate and necessary information to Covered Entity.
  - 2.7.3 Covered Entity shall make the final determination whether the Breach requires notification and whether the notification shall be made by Covered Entity or Business Associate.
- 2.8 If Business Associate receives PHI from Covered Entity in a Designated Record Set, Business Associate shall provide access, at the request of Covered Entity, to PHI in a Designated Record Set to Covered Entity, in order to meet the requirements under 45 CFR § 164.524, provided that Business Associate shall have at least 30 business days from Covered Entity notice to provide access to, or deliver such information.
- 2.9 If Business Associate receives PHI from Covered Entity in a Designated Record Set, then Business Associate shall make any amendments to PHI in a Designated Record Set that the Covered Entity directs or agrees to pursuant to the 45 CFR § 164.526 at the request of Covered Entity or an Individual, and in the time and manner designated by Covered Entity, provided that Business Associate shall have at least 30 business days from Covered Entity notice to make an amendment.
- 2.10 Business Associate shall make its internal practices, books, and records including policies and procedures and PHI, relating to the use and disclosure of PHI received from, created by or received by Business Associate on behalf of, Covered Entity available to the Secretary of the United States Department of Health in Human Services or the Secretary's designee, in a time and manner designated by the Secretary, for purposes of determining Covered Entity's or Business Associate's compliance with the Privacy Rule.



- 2.11 Business Associate shall document disclosures of PHI and information related to such disclosures as would be required for Covered Entity to respond to a request by an Individual for an accounting of disclosure of PHI in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.528.
- 2.12 Business Associate shall provide Covered Entity or an Individual, in time and manner designated by Covered Entity, information collected in accordance with this Agreement, to permit Covered Entity to respond to a request by an Individual for and accounting of disclosures of PHI in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.528, provided that Business Associate shall have at least 30 business days from Covered Entity notice to provide access to, or deliver such information which shall include, at minimum, (a) date of the disclosure; (b) name of the third party to whom the PHI was disclosed and, if known, the address of the third party; (c) brief description of the disclosed information; and (d) brief explanation of the purpose and basis for such disclosure. Business Associate shall provide an accounting of disclosures directly to an individual when required by section 13405(c) of Public Law 111-5 [designated as 42 U.S.C. 17935(c)].
- 2.13 Business Associate agrees it must limit any use, disclosure, or request for use or disclosure of PHI to the minimum amount necessary to accomplish the intended purpose of the use, disclosure, or request in accordance with the requirements of the Privacy Rule.
- 2.13.1 Business Associate represents to Covered Entity that all its uses and disclosures of, or requests for, PHI shall be the minimum necessary in accordance with the Privacy Rule requirements.
- 2.13.2 Covered Entity may, pursuant to the Privacy Rule, reasonably rely on any requested disclosure as the minimum necessary for the stated purpose when the information is requested by Business Associate.
- 2.13.3 Business Associate acknowledges that if Business Associate is also a covered entity, as defined by the Privacy Rule, Business Associate is required, independent of Business Associate's obligations under this Memorandum, to comply with the Privacy Rule's minimum necessary requirements when making any request for PHI from Covered Entity.
- 2.14 Business Associate shall adequately and properly maintain all PHI received from, or created or received on behalf of, Covered Entity
- 2.15 If Business Associate receives a request from an Individual for a copy of the individual's PHI, and the PHI is in the sole possession of the Business Associate, Business Associate will provide the requested copies to the individual and notify the Covered Entity of such action. If Business Associate receives a request for PHI in the possession of the Covered Entity, or receives a request to exercise other individual rights as set forth in the Privacy Rule, Business Associate shall notify Covered Entity of such request and forward the request to Covered Entity. Business Associate shall then assist Covered Entity in responding to the request.
- 2.16 Business Associate shall fully cooperate in good faith with and to assist Covered Entity in complying with the requirements of the Privacy Rule.

### **3 OBLIGATIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF BUSINESS ASSOCIATE (Security Rule)**

- 3.1 Business Associate shall fully comply with the requirements under the Security Rule applicable to "business associates," as that term is defined in the Security Rule. In case of any conflict between this Agreement and Service Agreements, this Agreement shall govern.
- 3.2 Business Associate shall implement administrative, physical, and technical safeguards that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the electronic PHI that it creates, receives, maintains, or transmits on behalf of the covered entity as required by

the Security Rule and Public Law 111-5. This includes specifically, but is not limited to, the utilization of technology commercially available at the time to the Business Associate to protect the Covered Entity's PHI against any reasonably anticipated threats or hazards. The Business Associate understands that it has an affirmative duty to perform a regular review or assessment of security risks, conduct active risk management and supply best efforts to assure that only authorized persons and devices access its computing systems and information storage, and that only authorized transactions are allowed. The Business Associate will maintain appropriate documentation to certify its compliance with the Security Rule.

- 3.3 Business Associate shall ensure that any agent, including a subcontractor, to whom it provides electronic PHI received from or created for Covered Entity or that carries out any duties for the Business Associate involving the use, custody, disclosure, creation of, or access to PHI supplied by Covered Entity, to agree, by written contract (or the appropriate equivalent if the agent is a government entity) with Business Associate, to the same restrictions and conditions that apply through this Agreement to Business Associate with respect to such information.
- 3.4 Business Associate shall require its employees, agents, and subcontractors to report to Business Associate within five (5) business days, any Security Incident (as that term is defined in 45 CFR § 164.304) of which it becomes aware. Business Associate shall promptly report any Security Incident of which it becomes aware to Covered Entity.
- 3.5 Business Associate shall make its internal practices, books, and records including policies and procedures relating to the security of electronic PHI received from, created by or received by Business Associate on behalf of, Covered Entity available to the Secretary of the United States Department of Health in Human Services or the Secretary's designee, in a time and manner designated by the Secretary, for purposes of determining Covered Entity's or Business Associate's compliance with the Security Rule.
- 3.6 Business Associate shall fully cooperate in good faith with and to assist Covered Entity in complying with the requirements of the Security Rule.
- 3.7 Notification for the purposes of Sections 2.8 and 3.4 shall be in writing made by email/fax, certified mail or overnight parcel immediately upon becoming aware of the event, with supplemental notification by facsimile and/or telephone as soon as practicable, to:

**Warren Jasper, Director of Risk Management**  
**Tennessee State Veterans' Homes Board**  
**345 Compton Road, Murfreesboro, TN 37130**  
**P.O. Box 11328, Murfreesboro, TN 37129**  
[wjasper@tsvh.org](mailto:wjasper@tsvh.org)  
**Telephone # 615-225-1804**  
**FAX # 615-898-1619**

- 3.8 Business Associate identifies the following key contact persons for all matters relating to this Agreement:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Business Associate shall notify Covered Entity of any change in the key contact during the term of this Agreement in writing within ten (10) business days.

**4. PERMITTED USES AND DISCLOSURES BY BUSINESS ASSOCIATE**

- 4.1 Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may use or disclose PHI to perform functions, activities, or services for, or on behalf of, Covered Entity as specified in Service Contract(s), provided that such use or disclosure would not violate the Privacy and Security Rule, if done by Covered Entity. Business Associate's disclosure of PHI shall be subject to the limited data set and minimum necessary requirements of Section 13405(b) of Public Law 111-5, [designated as 42 U.S.C. 13735(b)]
- 4.2 Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may use PHI as required for Business Associate's proper management and administration or to carry out the legal responsibilities of the Business Associate.
- 4.3 Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may disclose PHI for the proper management and administration of the Business Associate, provided that disclosures are Required By Law, or provided that, if Business Associate discloses any PHI to a third party for such a purpose, Business Associate shall enter into a written agreement with such third party requiring the third party to: (a) maintain the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of PHI and not to use or further disclose such information except as Required By Law or for the purpose for which it was disclosed, and (b) notify Business Associate of any instances in which it becomes aware in which the confidentiality, integrity, and/or availability of the PHI is breached immediately upon becoming aware.
- 4.4 Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may use PHI to provide data aggregation services to Covered Entity as permitted by 42 CFR § 164.504(e)(2)(i)(B).
- 4.5 Business Associate may use PHI to report violations of law to appropriate Federal and State Authorities consistent with 45 CFR 164.502(j)(1).
- 4.6 Business Associate shall not use or disclose PHI that is Genetic Information for underwriting purposes. Moreover, the sale, marketing or the sharing for commercial use or any purpose construed by Covered Entity as the sale, marketing or commercial use of member's personal or financial information with affiliates, even if such sharing would be permitted by federal or state laws, is prohibited.
- 4.7 Business Associate shall enter into written agreements that are substantially similar to this Business Associate Agreements with any Subcontractor or agent which Business Associate provides access to Protected Health Information.
- 4.8 Business Associates shall implement and maintain information security policies that comply with the HIPAA Security Rule.

## **5. OBLIGATIONS OF COVERED ENTITY**

- 5.1 Covered Entity shall provide Business Associate with the Notice of Privacy Practices that Covered Entity produces in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.520, as well as any changes to such notice. Covered Entity shall notify Business Associate of any limitations in its notice that affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI.
- 5.2 Covered Entity shall provide Business Associate with any changes in, or revocation of, permission by an Individual to use or disclose PHI, if such changes affect Business Associate's permitted or required uses.
- 5.3 Covered Entity shall notify Business Associate of any restriction to the use or disclosure of PHI that Covered Entity has agreed to in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.522, to the extent that such restriction may affect Business Associate's use of PHI.

## 6. PERMISSIBLE REQUESTS BY COVERED ENTITY

Covered Entity shall not request Business Associate to use or disclose PHI in any manner that would not be permissible under the Privacy or Security Rule, if done by Covered Entity.

## 7. TERM AND TERMINATION

7.1 Term. This Agreement shall be effective as of the date on which it is signed by both parties and shall terminate when all of the PHI provided by Covered Entity to Business Associate, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity, is destroyed or returned to Covered Entity, or, if it is infeasible to return or destroy PHI, Section 7.3. below shall apply.

### 7.2 Termination for Cause.

7.2.1 This Agreement authorizes and Business Associate acknowledges and agrees Covered Entity shall have the right to immediately terminate this Agreement and Service Contracts in the event Business Associate fails to comply with, or violates a material provision of, requirements of the Privacy and/or Security Rule or this Memorandum.

7.2.2 Upon Covered Entity's knowledge of a material breach by Business Associate, Covered Entity shall either:

7.2.2.1 Provide a reasonable opportunity for Business Associate to cure the breach or end the violation, or

7.2.2.2 If Business Associate has breached a material term of this Agreement and cure is not possible or if Business Associate does not cure a curable breach or end the violation within a reasonable time as specified by, and at the sole discretion of, Covered Entity, Covered Entity may immediately terminate this Agreement and the Service Agreement.

7.2.2.3 If neither cure nor termination is feasible, Covered Entity shall report the violation to the Secretary of the United States Department of Health in Human Services or the Secretary's designee.

### 7.3 Effect of Termination.

7.3.1 Except as provided in Section 7.3.2. below, upon termination of this Agreement, for any reason, Business Associate shall return or destroy all PHI received from Covered Entity, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of, Covered Entity. This provision shall apply to PHI that is in the possession of subcontractors or agents of Business Associate. Business Associate shall retain no copies of the PHI.

7.3.2 In the event that Business Associate determines that returning or destroying the PHI is not feasible, Business Associate shall provide to Covered Entity notification of the conditions that make return or destruction unfeasible. Upon mutual agreement of the Parties that return or destruction of PHI is unfeasible; Business Associate shall extend the protections of this Memorandum to such PHI and limit further uses and disclosures of such PHI to those purposes that make the return or destruction unfeasible, for so long as Business Associate maintains such PHI.

## 8. MISCELLANEOUS

8.1 Regulatory Reference. A reference in this Agreement to a section in the Privacy and or Security Rule means the section as in effect or as amended.

- 8.2 Indemnity. The Business Associate shall indemnify the Covered Entity and hold it harmless for any claims, losses or other damages arising from or associated with any act or omission of Business Associate under this Agreement. This includes the costs of responding to a breach of the Agreement or the release of PHI contrary to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the costs of responding to a government enforcement action related to the breach, and any resultant fines, penalties, or damages paid by the Covered Entity.
- 8.3 Amendment. The Parties agree to take such action as is necessary to amend this Agreement from time to time as is necessary for Covered Entity to comply with the requirements of the Privacy and Security Rules and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, Public Law 104-191, including any amendments required by the United States Department of Health and Human Services to implement the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health and related regulations upon the effective date of such amendment, regardless of whether this Agreement has been formally amended, including, but not limited to changes required by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Public Law 111-5.
- 8.4 Survival. The respective rights and obligations of Business Associate under Section 7.3. of this Memorandum shall survive the termination of this Agreement.
- 8.5 Interpretation. Any ambiguity in this Agreement shall be resolved in favor of a meaning that permits Covered Entity and the Business Associate to comply with the Privacy and Security Rules.
- 8.6 Notices and Communications. All instructions, notices, consents, demands, or other communications required or contemplated by this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be delivered by hand, by facsimile transmission, by overnight courier service, or by first class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the respective party at the appropriate facsimile number or address as set forth below, or to such other party, facsimile number, or address as may be hereafter specified by written notice.

COVERED ENTITY:

**Warren Jasper, Director of Risk  
Management  
Tennessee State Veterans' Homes Board  
345 Compton Road, Murfreesboro, TN  
37130  
P.O. Box 11328, Murfreesboro, TN 37129  
[wjasper@tsvh.org](mailto:wjasper@tsvh.org)  
Telephone # 615-225-1804  
FAX # 615-898-1619**

BUSINESS ASSOCIATE:

All instructions, notices, consents, demands, or other communications shall be considered effectively given as of the date of hand delivery; as of the date specified for overnight courier service delivery; as of three (3) business days after the date of mailing; or on the day the facsimile transmission is received mechanically by the facsimile machine at the receiving location and receipt is verbally confirmed by the sender.

- 8.7 Strict Compliance. No failure by any Party to insist upon strict compliance with any term or provision of this Agreement, to exercise any option, to enforce any right, or to seek any remedy upon any default of any other Party shall affect, or constitute a waiver of, any Party's right to insist upon such strict compliance, exercise that option, enforce that right, or seek that remedy with respect to that default or any prior, contemporaneous, or subsequent default. No custom or practice of the Parties at variance with any provision of this Agreement shall affect, or constitute a waiver of, any Party's right to demand strict compliance with all provisions of this Agreement
- 8.8 Severability. With respect to any provision of this Agreement finally determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unenforceable, such court shall have jurisdiction to reform such provision so that it is enforceable to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, and the

Parties shall abide by such court's determination. In the event that any provision of this Agreement cannot be reformed, such provision shall be deemed to be severed from this Agreement, but every other provision of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

8.9 Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Tennessee except to the extent that Tennessee law has been pre-empted by HIPAA.

8.10 Compensation. There shall be **no** remuneration for performance under this Agreement except as specifically provided by, in, and through, existing administrative requirements of Tennessee State government and services contracts referenced herein.

8.11 Security Breach. A violation of HIPAA or the Privacy or Security Rules constitutes a breach of this Business Associate Agreement and a breach of the Service Contract(s) listed on page one of this agreement, and shall be subject to all available remedies for such breach.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,**

**Tennessee State Veterans' Homes Board:**

---

**NAME AND TITLE**

**Date:**

**[CONTRACTOR]:**

---

**NAME AND TITLE**

**Date:**